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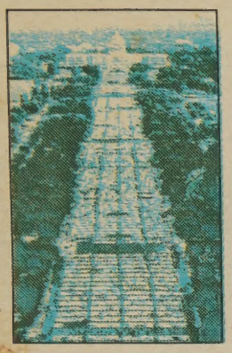

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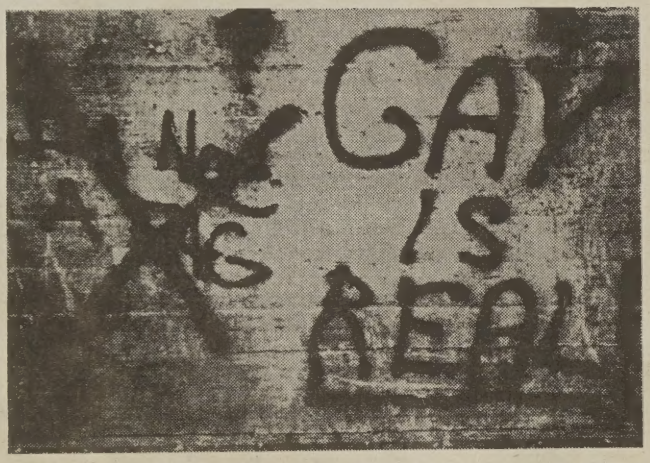

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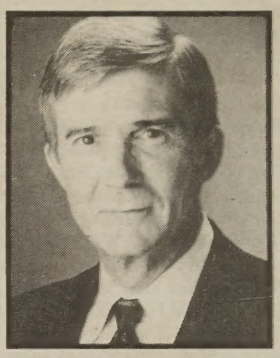
'96 in Review: Home Front

Ga. OKs marriage ban, sodomy ruling, but Shahar sparks hope

- Pride, AIDS Walk top records
- Gay visitor center Olympic effort



A Circuit Court of Appeals ruled Attorney General Mike Bowers (above left) violated the right to free association of Robin Shahar (on left with partner Fran) when he withdrew a job offer in the wake of their commitment ceremony. Bowers is appealing.

JANUARY

Lesbian beats state attorney general: A federal appeals court ruled Dec. 20, 1995 that Georgia Attorney General Michael Bowers violated legal staffer Robin Shahar's constitutional right to free association when he withdrew a job offer after learning she had participated in a commitment ceremony with another woman. Gay rights activists across the country hailed the decision by the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. "I think what the court is saying is if I find out if a member of my staff is a Nazi, a Ku Klux Klansmen or a member of Louis Farrakhan's inner group, I've got to keep them on. That can't be," Bowers told Associated Press. He later appealed to the full 11th Circuit panel of judges, which is still pending.

No same-sex insurance benefits, Oxendine says: Declaring same-sex partner benefits a threat to Georgia's families, state Insurance Commissioner John W. Oxendine said he will not permit private insurance companies to offer their client companies the opportunity to provide spousal insurance benefits to employees with same-sex partners. The directive was issued in response to five requests asking his office to rubber-stamp domestic partnership benefits for companies operating in the state. None of the companies has appealed his decisions. "Permitting this type of coverage could tear at the very fabric of the state—our families," Oxendine is quoted in the directive.

Two gay men die mysteriously in their bed: Two Atlanta men who had been a couple since meeting in the Navy were found dead in the back bedroom of their Midtown home Jan. 17. Karl Ackermann, 26, a para-professional in Atlanta Public Schools, and Danny Kasperski, 28, a computer technician at an area electronics firm, were found by their roommate lying in bed in their underwear. There was no apparent trauma to the bodies, and there was nothing taken from the house, a friend said. While autopsies conducted Jan. 18 failed to determine a cause of death, toxicology reports later showed they died of drug overdoses.

FEBRUARY

Look! No rubber gloves: The Georgia Capitol, which hasn't been a gay-friendly place, saw a group of about 20 newly trained gay and lesbian lobbyists Feb. 12 visit with their hometown legislators in a novel initiative by the Georgia Equality Project. Organizers said the lobbying went off without a hitch; no legislator refused to shake a gay lobbyist's hand, and there were no latex gloves.

Georgia House vetoes gay marriage—twice: The Georgia House of Representatives passed and sent to the state Senate two bills that would outlaw gay marriage in Georgia and void any marriage license granted legally to gay couples in other states, such as Hawaii. The first bill, sponsored by Tucker Rep. Ron Crews, would make only marriages between a man and a woman legal in Georgia. A second bill, passed by the House 164-6, would outlaw common-law marriage: It contains a second gay marriage ban just for good measure. "If a [same-sex] union takes place in a foreign country like New York City, it would not be recognized in Georgia," Rep. Len Walker, R-Loganville, also a pastor, told Associated Press.

What's in a name? A group of local progressive and pro-gay activists announced they had legal claim to the name "Family Concerns"—the moniker under which anti-gay activist Nancy Schaefer has been organizing her supporters for a decade. The group said they registered with the Secretary of State to use the name after Schaefer allowed her group's incorporation to expire. Schaefer, who had no comment at the time, got Attorney General Michael Bowers to investigate. By April, Bradley Pitts, a clerk in the Georgia Secretary of State's office, was fired for allegedly altering computer records so notices of renewal would not be sent to Schaefer. In May, Bowers returned use of the name to Schaefer's group. By June, Pitts had been charged with altering public records and making a false statement. In July, he pled guilty and was sentenced to perform about 80 hours of community service at Project Open Hand, and pay $3,000 in fines and restitution. Throughout, Pitts never spoke publicly about the incident.

MARCH

HIV-positive bartender sues Cheetah: Cheetah III, a famous destination for college men and bachelor parties, was sued by bartender Salvatore DeFalco after the club reportedly fired him because he has HIV. U.S. District Judge Willis B. Hunt Jr. ruled that DeFalco's firing violated the Americans with Disabilities Act, clearing the way for a state jury trial. Just before the end of the year, DeFalco, who now works at Backstreet, won and was awarded $10,000 in compensatory damages and $350,000 in punitive damages. An appeal is likely, lawyers for the Cheetah III said.

Olympic panic begins: Atlanta City Police met with gay bar owners and managers to warn them of all the logistical nightmares they expected as a result of throngs of visitors clogging Midtown during the Centennial Olympic Games. At the meeting, police Maj. John Woodard informed representatives of all the major Midtown bars of street closings and other extraordinary restrictions on truck traffic and deliveries necessitated by the unprecedented crowds that were expected to throng Midtown day and night. He estimated that Atlanta's city-limits population of about 850,000 would balloon by about 750,000 people every day during the two-week duration of the Games.

Georgia Supreme Court upholds sodomy law: Georgia's sodomy law survived its second major challenge in 10 years March 11 when the Georgia Supreme Court ruled that the law does not violate the right to privacy under the state Constitution because the law protects "the moral welfare of the public." Local and national activists were left stammering at the news of the unexpected outcome. Successful challenges to sodomy laws in other states had become almost routine in 1996. Larry Pellegrini, lobbyist for the Georgia Equality Project, said it was the most disappointing moment in the state's gay rights movement in the past decade. "It's outrageous," Pellegrini said. "We thought the swing votes would pay attention to the arguments and answer the questions, but apparently they didn't." The case concerned in the ruling involved L. Chris Christensen, a gay man who was arrested in May 1994 for solicitation of sodomy after being picked up in a police sting at a rest stop in Rockdale County off Interstate 20. The ACLU immediately asked the court to rehear the case and was rebuffed.

APRIL

Gov. Miller signs anti-marriage bill: Still reeling from the state Supreme Court defeat, Georgia's gay rights advocates took another hard jab weeks later when Gov. Zell Miller signed the bill banning gay marriage,

➢Continued on Page 11

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VOLUME 9
NUMBER 46

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'96 in Review/The Nation

DOMA, ENDA failures eclipse progress in 1996

- Supreme Court Dumps Amendment 2
- AIDS conference heralds 'cocktails'
- Hawaii OKs gay marriage; appeal pending

JANUARY

CBS dumps golf pundit who slammed lesbians: CBS-TV fired long-time golf commentator Ben Wright Jan. 9, nearly eight months after he was quoted as saying that lesbians hurt women's golf and women golfers "are handicapped by having boobs." Wright denied the remarks and survived the initial storm of outrage. However, the network decided to drop him after he told Sports Illustrated in its Nov. 29, 1995 issue that Valerie Helmbreck, the Wilmington newspaper reporter who wrote the original story, was divorced and in a custody battle, and that she might be a lesbian.

Prime-time TV features lesbian wedding: In a first for network prime time, the Jan. 18 episode of the popular NBC sitcom "Friends" featured a wedding between two lesbian characters played by straight actresses. The minister officiating the ceremony was played by the real thing—Candace Gingrich, half-sister to Newt, Georgia congressman and Speaker of the House of Representatives. Two local affiliates, one in Ohio and one in Texas, dropped the episode.

FEBRUARY

Coca-Cola protects gay employees: The international soft-drink company extended its non-discrimination policy to include gays and lesbians. The policy applies only to the marketing company's 5,000 employees, most of whom work in Atlanta. The hundreds of Coca-Cola bottling companies around the world, including Atlanta's, are independently owned. Coca-Cola does not offer benefits to domestic partners of its unmarried employees.

Floundering Dole tells MTV viewers gay is 'wrong:' Despite arch-conservative Pat Buchanan's frightening win in the New Hampshire primary, then-Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole was still considered the front-runner for the GOP presidential nomination when he told an MTV audience that he believed homosexuality was "wrong." Dole had been flip-flopping on his views about gays since the previous summer when his campaign first accepted, then returned, a contribution by the gay Log Cabin Republican organization, then lamely apologized about it. Also in the GOP primary campaign: publishing magnate Steve Forbes, son of the late Malcolm Forbes whose wealth reportedly kept his alleged bisexual lifestyle a discreet secret until after his death. Forbes ducked all questions about the subject before eventually bowing out of the race.

BOB ROEHR

Protesters in Washington, D.C., hit the streets to oppose the federal Defense of Marriage Act.

MARCH

St. Patrick's Day bust: New York City police arrested 45 members of the Irish Lesbian and Gay Organization who were demonstrating against their annual exclusion from the city's St. Patrick's Day parade. The group has tried to gain admittance to the St. Pat's parade for years, but is always turned down. The group has also regularly asked for a permit to hold a counter-parade, but also is denied that. A court case was appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court, where the gay group lost.

APRIL

Methodist bishops uphold gay ban: At its quadrennial general conference, 1,000 Bishops of the United Methodist Church voted not to change the church's constitution, which states: "We do not condone the practice of homosexuality and consider this practice incompatible with Christian teaching." A debate whether to strike the ban on homosexuality dominated much of the conference, which sets policy for the 8.5-million-member denomination, the second-largest Protestant group in the country. The disputed policy was first incorporated into sect doctrine in 1972, and has been upheld by the general conference every four years since.

MAY

Utah governor bans gay student clubs: Utah Gov. Mike Leavitt signed a bill that allows school districts to ban any club, putting an end to months of ill-fated attempts by local school boards to stop gay/lesbian friendly clubs from forming. The issue started in Salt Lake where the board found it could not ban a gay club unless it also banned every other type of club, which it then did. The new law requires school districts to prohibit clubs that involve human sexuality.

Episcopal clergy OK gay priests: An Episcopal Church court ruled May 15 there is no church doctrine barring the ordination of gays in a committed relationship. In ruling, a panel of eight bishops voted 7-1 to dismiss heresy charges against retired Bishop Walter Righter, 72. Righter had ordained Barry Stopfel, an openly gay man, as deacon in Newark, N.J., in 1990, even though Righter knew Stopfel was in a relationship and, therefore, not celibate.

DOMA rears its ugly head: Gay marriage escalated into a national political issue in early May when U.S. Rep. Bob Barr, R-Marietta, introduced the Defense of Marriage Act, a law that would allow states to ignore marriages performed in other states. Like many similar bills proposed in state legislatures across the country, the federal legislation was a reaction to a legal challenge in Hawaii state courts to permit same-sex couples to marry. The federal law prohibits the federal government from granting employee benefits to spouses of same-sex partners and permits states to not recognize same sex marriages that may be legal in other states. President Bill Clinton signed the measure into law after it passed by both houses of Congress.

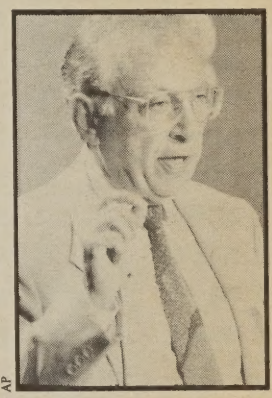
U.S. Supreme Court dumps Colo. Amendment 2: The U.S. Supreme Court ruled unconstitutional a Colorado voter initiative that amended the state's constitution to prohibit municipal governments from enacting laws protecting gays. The May 20 vote was 6-3. Writing for the majority, Justice Anthony M. Kennedy said, "We must conclude that Amendment 2 [makes homosexuals] unequal to everyone else. This Colorado cannot do." Gay civil rights activists rejoiced at the news and speculated the ruling would bring an end to the right wing political strategy of putting anti-gay issues directly before the voters in ballot initiatives.

JUNE

Anti-gay Cincinnati law struck down: Citing its Colorado Amendment 2 decision of the previous month, the U.S. Supreme Court voided a ballot initiative—called Issue 3—that city voters had passed banning any law to protect gays from discrimination.

JULY

AIDS summit trumpets protease news: When the AIDS treatment community gathered in Vancouver for the 11th International Congress on AIDS, the mainstream press reported on the success of treating HIV with a combination of drugs that includes protease inhibitors. While news that HIV might evolve to become a chronic, treatable disease like diabetes, protesters were howling about the projected annual cost of the treatment—$15,000.


AP

Dr. Robert Gallo speaking at the 11th International Conference on AIDS in Vancouver in July.

AUGUST

Atlantans knew gay victims of TWA 800 crash: Two members of the Paris gay men's chorus who were well-known to some Atlantans died along with 228 others in the July 19 crash of TWA Flight 800 off the coast of Long Island, N.Y. David Hogan, director of the Le Choeur International Gai de Paris, and Jean-Paul Galland, a baritone in the chorus, both of Paris, had grown close to members of the Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus when the two groups met in both Paris and at the recent international gay choral festival in Tampa, Fla., said Steven Lyzenga, president of the Atlanta chorus' board of directors.

Press outs two pro-DOMA gay Republicans: Gay journalist Kurt Wolfe reported July 27 that two members of Congress who had voted for the anti-gay Defense of Marriage Act, Rep. Jim Kolbe, R-Ariz., and Rep. Jim McCreary, R-La., are themselves gay. Kolbe confirmed the report, enjoyed an outpouring of support in his home district and cruised to re-election. While Wolfe's report was widely ignored, Kolbe brought his story to the mainstream press when he became aware that The Advocate was about to publish the story. McCreary denied the story, and the mainstream press left him alone.

FEC sues Christian Coalition for law violation: The Federal Elections Commission, the bipartisan watchdog that oversees campaign activities, sued the Christian Coalition in August, claiming the group illegally spent more than $1.4 million to support Republican candidates running for federal offices. The commission charged that the coalition, a nonprofit religious organization, spent millions on voter guides, mailings, telephone banks, and other activities to promote voter turnout in a coordinated effort with Republican organizations. The FEC said such spending should be counted as in-kind contributions and against

such campaign contribution limits. Christian Coalition founder Pat Robertson called the suit "totally baseless."

Gunderson scraps re-election write-in bid: Rep. Steven Gunderson, the only openly gay Republican in the U.S. House of Representatives, said he would avoid a write-in re-election campaign because opponents plan "to make allegations regarding my health status and AIDS." Gunderson, 45, a member of the House Agriculture Committee since 1981, was outed on the floor of the House by rabid anti-gay Bob Dornan, then a Republican representative from California. In July, months after he had announced he would not seek re-election, Gunderson said former aides and farm interests wanted him to change his mind about retiring from Congress at the end of his current term because he would be in line for the chairmanship of the powerful Agriculture Committee. He said he would stick with the retirement plan despite his supporters' efforts to nominate him as a write-in candidate. Meanwhile, Gunderson and his partner, Rob Morris, toured the country promoting their book about life in Washington from the viewpoint of a gay couple.

SEPTEMBER

Gays out front at Democratic convention: A substantial gay contingent was so solidly on the Clinton-Gore bandwagon at the Democratic National Convention in Chicago that Tipper Gore spoke to the gay caucus, four gay speakers addressed the full convention, and, to thunderous applause from the party delegates, the president mentioned gay people in his globally televised acceptance speech. The featured entertainment even had a major gay connection, with the cast of the hit Broadway show "Rent" singing "Seasons of Love" to close the first night of the convention. Written by a gay-friendly man, the musical's major characters are HIV-positive, gay or transgendered. Still, a number of concerns with Clinton's record were on the minds of the 155 delegates and alternates who made up the lesbian and gay caucus. Several members acknowledged a pre-convention survey by The New York Times in which 36 percent of delegates said they had at least minor reservations about the president. Tipper Gore spoke before one of the daily meetings of the caucus, thanking its members for past lesbian and gay support. Without it, "I don't think we'd be here today," she said. Gays were not profiled as highly in the Republican National Convention in August, though protests outside abounded.

AP

Gay protesters picketed the Republican National Convention in San Diego in August.

Bleak day on Capitol Hill—DOMA, Yes; ENDA, No: Sept. 10 was the day the U.S. Senate overwhelming passed the anti-gay marriage law known as Defense of Marriage Act. It was also the day that Georgia's senior Sen. Sam Nunn cast a deciding no vote on ENDA, a bill that would outlaw job discrimination against gays and lesbians, though bisexuals were not mentioned and transgenders were specifically excluded. HRC, the Human Rights Campaign, claimed the narrow one-vote defeat of ENDA was nonetheless a moral victory for the gay civil rights movement. The marriage bill was later signed by President Bill Clinton and federal law now defines a marriage as a union of one man and one woman, and states are permitted to ignore same-sex marriages should they become legal and be performed in another state.

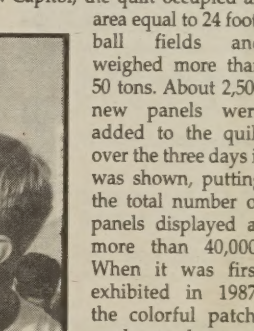
IBM extends domestic partnership benefits: While gay rights suffered in the public sector, some advances were made in the private sector and one of the biggest in 1996. IBM Corp.'s Sept. 19 announcement the international company would offer employee spousal benefits to the domestic partners of its lesbian and gay employees. IBM, long-considered one of the most conservative corporations in the United States, said it made the move to remain competitive with its rivals in high-tech industry, scores of which already offer such benefits to current and prospective employees. "We want to make sure we can attract and maintain a full range of talented people," said Jill Kanin-Lovers, vice president of human resources at IBM, which has barred employment discrimination against gay employees since 1974.

OCTOBER

AIDS Quilt display in D.C.: An estimated 1.2 million people visited the AIDS Memorial Quilt when it was shown in its entirety in Washington, D.C., over Columbus Day weekend, Oct. 11-13. Stretching from the Washington Monument to the grounds of the U.S. Capitol, the quilt occupied an area equal to 24 football fields and weighed more than 50 tons. About 2,500 new panels were added to the quilt over the three days it was shown, putting the total number of panels displayed at more than 40,000. When it was first exhibited in 1987, the colorful patchwork was about one city block long. During opening ceremonies for the display that opened Oct. 11, Vice President Al Gore and his wife Tipper read the names of their friends who have died from AIDS. Later that day, Presi-dent Bill Clinton and the First Lady visited the quilt accompanied by NAMES Project founders Cleve Jones and Mike Smith, and Names Project Executive Director Anthony Turney. The Clinton visit was not listed on the president's daily agenda and, consequently, not covered by the national press.

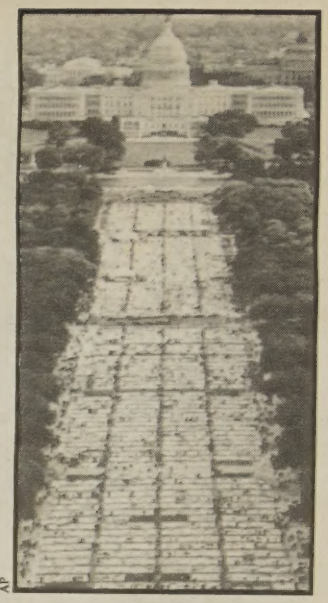
NOVEMBER

Absentee ballots boot anti-gay Calif. congressman: One of the closest races in the 1996 national elections was the seat of California Republican Bob Dornan of the state's 46th District, who lost his bid to Democrat Loretta Sanchez in the final tally of absentee ballots. Dornan had charged Sanchez' campaign with misconduct and delayed a declaration of a winner until all votes had been meticulously accounted for. It was almost Thanksgiving before pro-gay Sanchez was officially declared winner. Dornan, meanwhile, was filmed snarling at former friends and denouncing the election results. Sanchez, the first woman and the first Hispanic to represent the 46th District, which includes much of affluent Orange County near Los Angeles, enjoyed vigorous support from local and national gay and AIDS organizations. In fact, the partners of the three openly gay members of Congress threw a fund-raiser for the 36-year-old candidate in Washington during her campaign. Throughout his political career, Dornan launched attacks on lesbians an gays, as well as people with HIV and AIDS. During the 104th Congress, Dornan, 63, was the architect of the measure that would have forced the armed forces to discharge all HIV-positive service members and cut off benefits to their families. Included in a spending bill, the measure was repealed later by separate piece of legislation.



AP

Republican Bob Dornan was defeated in November by Democrat Loretta Sanchez for California's 46th congressional district seat.



The AIDS Memorial Quilt was assembled in its entirety Oct. 11-13 on the Mall in Washington, D.C.

Gay-bashed student awarded nearly $1 Million: A Wisconsin gay man who sued his high school administrators for failing to protect him during years of physical and emotional gay bashing by fellow students accepted a $962,000 out of court settlement Nov. 20. Jamie Nabozny, now 21, had sued the Ashland School District in northern Wisconsin and school officials, launching the first-ever federal trial of a school district for failure to protect the rights of a gay student. The settlement came one day after the U.S. District Court jury found that while the school district as a whole was not liable, three administrators were. The jury had been scheduled to begin considering damages Nov. 20, before the settlement was announced.

DECEMBER

Hawaii judge OKs gay marriage; appeal filed: Hawaii First Circuit Court Judge Kevin Chang ruled Dec. 3 that the right of same-gender couples to marry is protected by the Hawaii state constitution. In the case, Baehr v. Miike, brought by three same-gender couples, Chang ruled that the state failed to show any compelling reason for refusing to issue marriage licenses to same-gender couples. Almost immediately after issuing his decision, Chang granted Hawaii's attorney general a stay of the ruling pending the outcome of an appeal to Hawaii's Supreme Court. That final ruling in the case is not expected for a least a year, according to attorneys for both sides. The highly publicized case prompted a flurry of anti-gay marriage laws and bills still pending in states across the country, as well as the federal Defense of Marriage Act enacted by 104th Congress. Speaking about the Hawaii state court ruling, Matt Coles, director of the Lesbian and Gay Rights Project at the American Civil Liberties Union told the New York Times: "I think this is the most ringing endorsement yet by a court of gay and lesbian parenting. The delicious irony here is that the right wing forced this to be a case about parenting and got it right smack between the eyes with an opinion that said gay and lesbian couples can be nurturing and supportive."

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'96 in Review

AROUND THE SOUTH

JANUARY

S.C. student radio station closed after gay tunes: The student radio station at the University of South Carolina was abruptly shut down and re-staffed in January, reportedly for playing explicit songs about gay sex. WUSC-FM, which once played the college station mix of non-commercial programming, got into hot water last fall when one administration advisor monitored programming for two weeks and heard songs he said endangered the station's FCC license. One song, "Homo Christmas" by the band Screeching Weasel, included the lyric, "All I want for Christmas is your hard cock," and referred to candy canes and anal penetration.

FEBRUARY

Lesbian appeals child custody awarded to killer: Mary Ward of Pensacola, Fla., appealed state Circuit Judge Joseph Tarbuck's decision in August 1995 to award custody of her child to her former husband, John Ward, 44, of Milton. In 1974, John Ward was convicted of killing his first wife reportedly after they argued over custody of their children at that time. Mary Ward did not know about the incident when she married him in 1983. At the time of their divorce in 1992, she was granted custody of their daughter. Later, John Ward challenged the decision and won, with the judge ruling that "This child should be given the opportunity and the option to live in a non-lesbian world."

MARCH

Greenville Baptists block MCC project: Responding to protests reportedly organized by a Baptist church, the Greenville, S.C., zoning officials told a local gay church in May that its congregation can't worship in an abandoned school building in a historic section of town. The city's board of zoning adjustments ruled that Greenville's Metropolitan Community Church can't renovate the old Haynsworth school building it already owns in the Victorian Hampton-Pinckney neighborhood near downtown. The board said the church would bring too much traffic to the residential neighborhood, but the church and many others in the community believe an outcry from local conservatives and a nearby Baptist church influenced city officials.

APRIL

Gay art exhibit closed in Miss: An exhibit featuring videotaped confessions by a gay Atlanta artist's relatives was abruptly canceled in Mississippi after a local minister threatened a protest. Larry Jens Anderson's art installation "Where Do Queers Come From?" features taped statements from his mother and father and his seven siblings, all from Randall, Kan., which has about 75 residents. On the tapes, Anderson's mother reads from the Bible and his brother talks about being propositioned in the Navy. While the videotapes run, a "wheel of fortune" backed by hundreds of childhood photos can be turned to select homosexuality, asexuality, bisexuality or heterosexuality. The pointer is a golden rubber penis.

MAY

Torch bearer shies from Greenville: AIDS volunteer and activist John "DeShawn" Gamble announced that he doesn't want to carry the Olympic torch through Greenville County now that the county council has approved an anti-gay resolution. "I'm appalled and I'm very upset," said Gamble, who volunteers weekly at Stephen's House, a Greenville County group home for people with AIDS and HIV. Gamble said he wants to carry the torch somewhere else if the resolution stands.

NGLTF asked Attorney General Janet Reno to investigate Appalachian killings.

JUNE

Lesbians killed on Appalachian Trail: The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force asked Attorney General Janet Reno to investigate the killings of two lesbians hiking on the Appalachian Trail. The bodies of Julianne Williams, 24, of St. Cloud, Minn., and Lollie Winans, 24, of Unity, Maine, were found June 1 by park rangers at a secluded campsite about one-half mile off the trail in Shenandoah National Park near Luray, Va. Their throats had been cut, but authorities would not say whether the women were sexually assaulted. A dog that had been traveling with them, a golden retriever named Taj, was found running loose nearby. The women, who were reportedly involved in an intimate relationship, were both trained as guides for wilderness camping and hiking.

Tenn. high court overturns sodomy law: The Tennessee Supreme Court June 10 did what Georgia's high court failed to do in March and overturned the Volunteer State's sodomy law. In a one-line decision, Tennessee's highest court let stand a state appeal's court ruling that the Tennessee statute outlawing oral and anal sex, and other same-sex

practices violated the Tennessee Constitution's right to privacy. "What it does is lift part of the yoke of oppression on us," said lesbian attorney Abby Rubenfeld, who argued the case.

Gay Day at Disney fills park to capacity: Thousands of red-shirted gays and lesbians crowded Walt Disney World June 1, enough to close the Orlando, Fla., park's parking lot by 11 a.m. for Gay Day at Disney. By early afternoon, the Magic Kingdom had reached its capacity of 75,000. By 3 p.m., most gays and lesbians gathered at Cinderella's Castle for the daily parade, which had a considerably more gay theme than on most days. Disney posted no warnings to uninformed non-gay tourists this year, but ticket buyers were verbally informed of the day's event.

WALT DISNEY CO.

Walt Disney World filled to its 75,000-person capacity on Gay Day June 1.

JULY

Rev. Mel White confronts Cobb Commission: The Rev. Mel White, the former conservative who was arrested for protesting Pat Robertson's TV network, announced plans to confront the Cobb County Commissioners about the anti-gay resolution they passed. On July 23, White, the former friend of and ghost writer for Robertson, Billy Graham and Jerry Falwell, will try and speak to the commission. White was arrested and spent 22 days in a Virginia jail for staging a demonstration at the headquarters of Robertson's Christian Broadcasting Network in February 1995.

AUGUST

HIV advances threaten insurance network in Georgia: A state government report presented Aug. 16 warns that the funding of life-sustaining new treatments could be gutted through Medicaid reform, with chain-reaction effects hitting health care providers statewide. The report also states that the very survival of "core public health programs and services," including HIV prevention programs, offered by Georgia and its counties is not assured. "The HIV care infrastructure in Georgia is fragile," states the report by the Epidemiology and Prevention Branch of Georgia's public health division. EPB Director Kathleen Toomey, M.D., presented the report at the quarterly meeting of a statewide advisory task force on AIDS in Decatur.

OCTOBER

Helms ad quotes gay papers: Republican U.S. Sen. Jesse Helms' campaign began airing an anti-gay attack ad labeling Democrat Harvey Gantt as "too liberal for North Carolina," and citing articles in Southern Voice and other gay papers as evidence. In the ad, an announcer says, "Harvey Gantt is trying to convince voters he's against same-sex marriages, but that's not what Harvey Gantt told Q-Notes, a Charlotte-based gay newspaper."

NOVEMBER

125 attend youth conference in S.C.: More than 125 gay, lesbian and bisexual youth and their supporters attended the Reach-ing Out in the South conference at the University of South Carolina Oct. 25-27. "A few weeks ago, when we only had maybe two registered participants, I had lots of worries," said Lisa Yannetty, an advisor for the organization. "But so many people have pitched in and made this conference a success." Columbia P-FLAG founder and activist Harriet Hancock also greeted participants of the conference and applauded BGLA's work in organizing the conference. "This is just tremendous for there to be a conference on gay and lesbian youth issues in Columbia, S.C.," she said. "Everyone has worked together and made this conference a success. I hope this opens the doors of tolerance even further."

DECEMBER

Lesbian attorney slain in Richmond: Police in Richmond, Va., said they had not ruled out gay-bashing as a possible motive in the killing of a lesbian attorney who was found bound to a chair in her downtown office with her throat slashed. Police said they found the body of Leslie Anne Coughenour, 44, in a second floor office at Carpenter & Woodward, the law firm where she had worked for the past year. Carol Woodward, a partner with the law firm, said another one of the firm's partners escorted two police officers into the firm's two-story brick building at about 3:30 a.m. on Nov. 4 to check on Coughenour's whereabouts.

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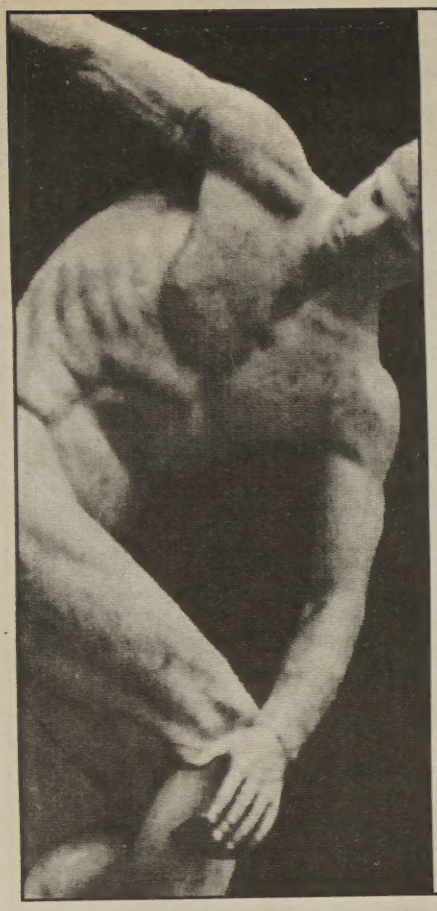

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66 Pages

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NVR

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'96 in Review

HEALTH NEWS

JANUARY

Book re-evaluates transgender care: Sullivan Press of Decatur announced plans to publish a book offering comprehensive guidelines for the medical and psychological care of transgender people that repudiates the idea that transgender is an illness. The book also contends that shifting gender through hormone therapy does not necessarily have to be linked to a sex-change operation. "Recommended Guidelines for Transgender Care," by psychologist Gianna Israel and physician Donald Tarver was scheduled to be released in April.

FEBRUARY

FDA allows expanded access for blood scalding: The Food and Drug Administration announced plans to allow expanded trials of hyperthermia, a controversial treatment in which patients' blood is scalded in an attempt to kill at least some of the HIV in their bloodstream. The federal agency said Feb. 8 it will allow IDT Inc. to add 60 AIDS patients to a trial of the treatment in which a patient's blood is drained, heated to 114 degrees and returned to the body. Early attempts at using hyperthermia as an AIDS treatment caused a scandal in 1990, when a patient who was declared cured by the therapy was revealed to have never had HIV.

MARCH

AIDS policy leaders call for local solutions: At a meeting of 600 community leaders from around the country March 6-7 in Atlanta, Coretta Scott King joined others in urging continued emphasis on community based initiatives as a crucial element in the fight to stop the spread HIV. The widow of slain civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. noted the similarities between the civil rights movement, the battle against HIV/AIDS, and the fight for gay and lesbian rights. Said King: "It is clear that the struggle to prevent the spread of AIDS and the suffering that accompanies AIDS are still made more difficult by the persistence of bigotry and prejudice toward gay people . . . ." The Prevention Summit was co-sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control, the National Alliance of State AIDS Directors, and the National Minority AIDS Council.

Coretta Scott King spoke of the bigotry facing gay people in the fight against AIDS.

White House issues report on teen HIV: Teen-agers are contracting the AIDS virus at an average of more than one an hour, according to a report issued by the White House Office on AIDS Policy. The White House again urged the nation to teach youths how to protect themselves. President Clinton asked the White House Office of AIDS Policy to talk to young people to find solutions. The report, issued March 5, echoes what many scientists and AIDS activists have said for years: Strong AIDS education is vital for children so that if they later have sex or experiment with drugs, they know how to protect themselves.

APRIL

Combination drugs more effective against HIV: A combination of three drugs is more effective in fighting HIV than any combination of just two of the drugs, according to a study appearing April 18 in the New England Journal of Medicine. The study found that a combination of two drugs made by Hoffmann-LaRoche, saquinavir, also known as invirase, and zalcitabine, or DDC, and Glaxo-Wellcome's drug AZT, was most effective in reducing HIV's ability to reproduce. The study of 229 patients at 10 participating AIDS trial units found the patients who took all three drugs had significantly better results than patients who took combinations of just two of the drugs.

MAY

CDC issues first report on lesbians and HIV: The Centers for Disease Control released its first report on HIV and lesbians and woman-to-woman HIV transmission, along with a commitment to increase research and education on the topic. The report concluded that although the level of risk for transmission of HIV during woman-to-woman sex was probably low, other risk factors, including substance abuse, sex with men—particularly gay and bisexual men—and artificial insemination were not being addressed by health professionals. The report includes a list of 25 recommendations to improve handling of lesbian-related HIV issues.

JUNE

California Cyclists Pedal 525 Miles for AIDS Benefit: More than 2,200 bicyclists who pedaled for seven days from San Francisco to Los Angeles raised nearly $8 million for AIDS, the highest-grossing single-event AIDS fund-raiser in history. The benefit, called the California AIDS Ride 3, attracted about 2,275 riders and thousands of spectators along the

AP

Some of the finishers in California AIDS Ride 3, the most successful AIDS fund-raiser in history.

way. The money raised was slated for the Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Center and the San Fran-cisco AIDS Found-ation. The mayor of West Holly-wood, Paul Koretz, was among those who pedaled the entire route. "The California AIDS Ride 3 is not only a great way to raise funds for AIDS services, but is also a way for people to show their determination to eradicate the scourge in our community, Koretz said.

JULY

Twice as many gay alcoholics? While an estimated 10 percent of the general U.S. population is alcoholic, the alcoholism rate among gays, lesbians and bisexuals is twice that, according to the National Council on Alcoholism and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. "Those estimates don't even include addiction to other drugs such as cocaine, and pertain only to those people who acknowledge their homosexuality," said Jay Segal, director of the Lambda Recovery Program, a specialized chemical dependency treatment program for gay men and lesbians. "Society, cultural, genetic and biochemical factors may all contribute to the numbers, especially the impact of societal homophobia...Another factor is that gay bars are one of the few places gays can socialize openly."

AUGUST

Montana man receives new thymus as AIDS treatment: A Helena, Mont., man was one of a handful of patients who have received a thymus transplant as a experimental AIDS treatment. Dr. Richard Hong of the University of Vermont implanted a donated thymus into the anonymous 31-year-old man who has been HIV-positive for 13 years. The thymus is a tiny organ that produces T-cells, the white blood cells that fight infection. It normally shrinks with age and is damaged as AIDS progresses. The hope of the procedure is that the transplanted organs will boost the patients T-cell count.

SEPTEMBER

AIDS wasting drug receives FDA clearance: For the first time since the AIDS epidemic began, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration applied the accelerated review process to a drug which promotes metabolic changes that address the syndrome of AIDS wasting (cachexia), a leading cause of death among people with AIDS. AIDS wasting causes the body to inappropriately burn lean body mass, including muscle and organ tissue, instead of fat.

OCTOBER

AIDS among blacks rising: AIDS warnings are apparently reaching high-risk whites but not many blacks, who continue to contract the disease in disproportionately high numbers, experts said Oct. 22 at an emergency summit convened by black leaders at the Harvard AIDS Institute. Statistics indicate that blacks will account for more than half of new AIDS cases by 2000. Statistics from the Centers for Disease Control show that last year there were 93 cases of AIDS reported for every 100,000 blacks, compared to 15 cases for every 100,000 whites.

NOVEMBER

Depression increases risk of death for men with HIV: The first study to measure the effects of chronic depression on gay and bisexual men with HIV found that depression increases their risk of death. The study, published in "The Archives of Internal Medicine," was conducted by Dr. Tracy Mayne of the University of California at San Francisco Center for AIDS Prevention Studies. "In the past, depression has been linked to higher mortality in the general population and shorter survival in patients with chronic diseases," he said.

DECEMBER

NJ doctors report first protease failures: Doctors say signs of resistance to protease inhibitors are showing up in a small but significant number of HIV-positive patients in New Jersey. In response, that state's health department and the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will soon begin programs to monitor patients in Newark and New Brunswick. "We are seeing resistance in some of our clients," Lu Navarro, a nurse at the Eric B. Chandler Health Center in New Brunswick, told a New Jersey AIDS conference Dec. 9. Navarro said most clients who use protease inhibitors in combination with older drugs such as AZT and DDI, show improvement. After six months, however, some are no longer responding, he said.

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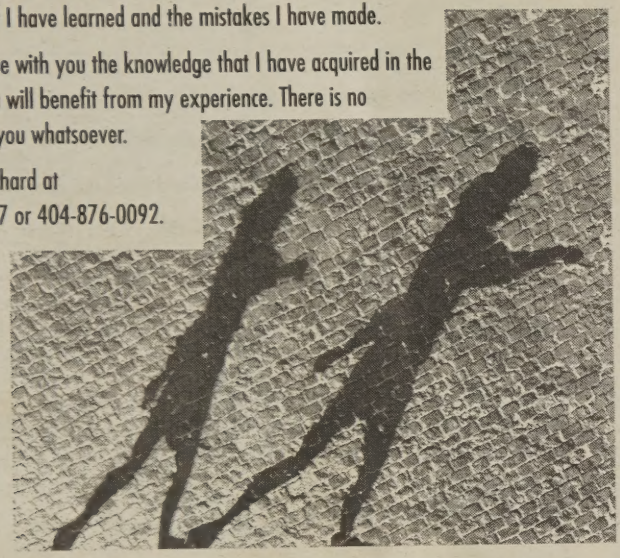

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'96 in Review

LOCAL and REGIONAL DEATHS

JANUARY

David Andrus, 28, died Jan. 11. He is survived by his life partner, Bart Nikolas, and parents Paul and Diane Andrus.

Barry Clifton Bruce, 37, died Jan. 14. He is survived by his parents, Carlos and Maxine Bruce and sisters Stephany Williams, Jocelyn Montgomery.

Greg Strickland, 36, (affectionately known as "Missie Crack Corn") died Jan. 22 at home of complications from AIDS. He is survived by his partner, Lou Black, his parents Lew and Barbara Strickland of Isle of Hope, Ga.

Ronald James Davidson, 32, a resident of Atlanta for five years, died at Haven House on Jan. 22 of complications from AIDS. He is survived by his partner, Anthony Ricciardi, his mother Jo Cobia of Pensacola, Fla., his father, Robert Davidson of Lillian, Ala., and his brother, William Davidson of Providence, R.I.

David Lynn Stover, 39, of Macon, Ga., died Jan. 26. He is survived by his partner, Sid Vereen of Macon and parents Margaret and Norris Ledford of Shelby, N.C.

FEBRUARY

William E. Meneely, 43, died Feb. 3 at Haven House in Atlanta. William is survived by a sister, Virginia Heath of Dubuque, Iowa, and brother, Rev. A David Meneely of Ardmore, Pa.

Larry Broughton, died Feb. 8. Larry is survived by his parents, Jesse and Doris Broughton, several brothers and sisters.

Brian J. Bartoletti, 29, died Feb. 13.

Herbert Byron Griffith, 49, died at home in Madison on Feb. 19. He is survived by his mother, Mildred Juanita Thompson Griffith of Madison, Ga., and his brother and family in Greensboro, N.C.

Satyn DeVille, 49, died Feb. 20 of an aneurysm. A winner of many contests and crowns—too numerous to mention—Miss DeVille, who styled her stage persona and looks from Gloria Swanson, Joan Bennett and Gale Sondergaard, hated the encroachment of age. She thought donning a white wig would not be "the tea" as an older drag.

MARCH

Christopher "Fuzzy" Soldani, 29, died March 12. He is survived by Tyler, his son and his wife, Marvel, and best friend and lover, Clark K.

Richard K. Lewis, 42, died March 25. He is survived by daughter, Noelle Lewis of Cumming, his companion Logan Nicholson, his parents Horace and Jean Lewis of Rockdale County; four brothers, Dean, Ted, Andy and Tony, all of Rockdale.

APRIL

Ronald Byrd, 35 died April 4 in San Diego. Surviving family and friends include two sons in Rome, Ga., brothers and sisters in Georgia and Florida.

Ken Gordon, 34, died April 8 in Atlanta. Ken is survived by his husband, Hubert Alexander, two brothers, his mother, father, father's wife, and grandparents, all of Washington state; a sister in California; parents-in-law and a sister-in-law in Virginia.

Lannie "Cherry" Snow, 36, died April 20. The role Lannie will most be remembered for is that of Wee Wee Pole with RuPaul in the mid '80s.

Devon Clayton, 34, died April 23 at his home in Midtown. His death was a suicide. Clayton was an employee of Southern Voice for several years. He is survived by his father, step-mother and several siblings.

F. David Hammond, 36, died April 25. He is survived by his partner of 10 years, Lee Kirby, and family. David served as a volunteer and on the board of directors of Pets are Loving Support.

MAY

Edmund Price, 39, died of AIDS on May 3. He is survived by a supportive family and friends.

Jeff Maddox, 49, died unexpectedly of a heart attack on May 17. He is survived by his lover of seven years Porter Draughon and his mother Mary Oates Maddox.

Stephen Robert Guyton, 39, died May 24 at his home in Asheville, N.C. Survivors include his parents, Dr. and Mrs. Robert David Guyton of New Orleans and Birmingham; his partner, Marc Hill of Waynesville, N.C.; companion, Richard Lethgo of Asheville; and sister Gigi Guyton of Charlotte, N.C.

JULY

Len Jackson, 44, formerly of New Orleans, died July 9 of AIDS-related complications at his Baltimore, Md., home. In addition to his lover of seven years, Jim White, Jackson is survived by his mother, Sybil Jackson, of New Bedford; sister Marsha Jackson of Hanover, Md.; a brother Larry of Santa Barbara, Calif.

Mario P. DiCamillo, 45, of Atlanta died July 20 at Piedmont Hospital. He is survived by his partner Sammie Nicely, sister Pat Homa of Norristown, Pa.

Charles Dean Claytor, 40, died of AIDS related illness at his home in Atlanta, July 24. He is survived by his life partner, Tom Woodward of Atlanta, his parents Helen and Charles Claytor, sister and brother-in-law Sharon and Jerry Rutledge all of Ardmore, Oklahoma, and brothers and sisters-in-law Paul and Gail Claytor of Arlington Heights, Illinois, and David and Linda Claytor of Opelika, Ala.

J. Todd Bandy, 31, of Atlanta died July 26 due to AIDS-related illness. He is survived by numerous loving friends in Atlanta and many other cities, as well as by his parents, a sister, and a brother, all of Tenn.

AUGUST

Craig M. Pate, 27, died of AIDS-related complications on Aug. 12. He is survived by his loving parents and his sister Julie.

Steven Scott Orr died of AIDS Aug. 25. Survivors include his parents, Joan and L.S. Orr of Dalton, his brothers and sisters-in-law, Rick and Karen Orr of Atlanta, and Mark and Laura Orr of Dalton.

NOVEMBER

Thomas Henry Hoff, 41, died in Atlanta Nov. 1. He is survived by his mother Jacqueline Traylor and sister Cheri Hoff Minckler..

Jan Lynch, died Nov. 6 in Knoxville, Tenn., of complications from AIDS.

Christine Richards, 35, died of heart failure on Nov. 9. She is survived by her family.

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National Gay Newspaper Guild MEMBER

'96 in Review: Home Front

>Continued from Page 3

rather than letting it slip the deadline and quietly become law without his endorsement. It made Georgia one of the first four states to outlaw legal recognition of gay unions, a number that swelled to 16 by year's end. Miller's decision to sign the bill was "purely political.", said Teresa Nelson of the American Civil Liberties Union. "He's been looking more and more like a Republican every year."

Welcome world: Julie Rhoad, owner of Candler Creative, a special events company, announced plans to open a Gay & Lesbian Visitor's Center for the Centennial Olympics. Inspired by an idea from the committee of gays and lesbians who advise Mayor Bill Campbell, Rhoad said she intends to do something good and important for the community, while making money as well. When all was said and done, she succeeded triumphantly in the former, and failed terribly in the latter. Unable to attract any corporate sponsorship, the project closed after Labor Day, but not before giving Julie a financial bath.

Spiked! Bowing to pressure from throughout the metro area, the nation, and the international community, the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games announced it would pull the volleyball competition from Cobb County because of the county commission's infamous anti-gay resolution. Members of Olympics Out of Cobb and the Cobb Citizens Coalition rejoiced. Cobb officials soon announced a German firm would put a shopping and entertainment extravaganza in the now-free Galleria. Not too long thereafter, the German firm withdrew, leaving Cobb's huge taxpayer-financed special event facility dark and empty as visitors from around the world filled similar sites all over the metro area.

Southern Voice editor dies: Shocking his friends, family and co-workers, Southern Voice editor Devon Clayton took his own life April 23.

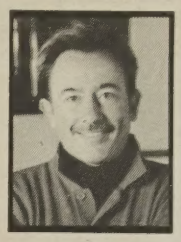
MAY

Coca-Cola signs on as Pride sponsor: Officials with Atlanta Pride announced Coca Cola Co., the Atlanta-based soft drink giant, as sponsor of this year's Pride festival, the first time Coke has sponsored a gay pride event.

Sorry about that: When the Tour DuPont, an internationally televised bicycle race, finished its 12-day run May 11 in Kennesaw, a senior official with DuPont, the giant chemical company, apologized to activists for ending the race in Cobb County, saying the company wasn't aware of the county's anti-gay resolution during planning. He also pledged not to come back while the anti-gay resolution remained in effect.

Amber Richards dies: The popular transgender entertainer died May 13 in a bizarre house fire that extinguished itself and was not discovered for almost two days. In June, the annual cabaret finale was dedicated to Amber's memory.

Theatre in the Square Artistic Director Michael Horne dies: Horne, who died May 12 at age 41, and his managing director and long-time companion, Palmer Wells, established Theatre in the Square in Marietta in 1982. The next year, its production of Terrance McNally's "Lips Together, Teeth Apart," touched off debate in Cobb County that led to the cessation of all arts funding by the county, and eventually, the Cobb County Commission's adoption of a resolution condemning gays and lesbians.



Michael Horne, founder of Theatre in the Square in Marietta, died.

JUNE

Project Open Hand moves to new location: Project Open Hand, one of the city's largest AIDS service organizations, cut the ribbon on its new building June 7. Open Hand, which at the time delivered more than 1,000 meals every day to people in the metro area with HIV and AIDS, moved out of its space in Little Five Points in the old Bass High School and into a warehouse space at 176 Ottley Drive that it bought and renovated. In August, the group announced its caseload was off 16 percent.

Davis introduces domestic partnerships—finally: After more than a year of promises, delays and hesitation, Atlanta City Council Member Mary Davis on June 17 re-introduced an ordinance to City Council that would extend the benefits of city employees to their unmarried, but legally registered, partners. If approved, it would make the health and dental benefits and other perks of city employees available to couples of both the same sex and opposite sex.

Gay & Lesbian Visitor's Center opens: After a massive painting and clean-up effort by staff and volunteers, the Gay & Lesbian Visitor's Center opened June 24 at Center Stage on West Peachtree Street in Midtown. The center debuted its world-premier show, "In Stitches," that day. The upstairs coffee bar, media center and art exhibits opened July 14.

KBS

The 1996 AIDS Walk generated more than $1 million with proceeds estimated at $700,000, up 35 percent from 1995.

Record crowds at Pride: Organizers estimated a record weekend crowd of 325,000 in Piedmont Park June 28-30. Sunny weather and the presence of the Indigo Girls as the headline act, are credited. The following week, Gale Timmis, director of the Piedmont Park Conservancy, was intimating that the event had gotten too big for the park.

JULY

Carrying the torch in Midtown! ACOG confirmed that Olympic torch-bearer Gerry Bright, one of the founders of the AIDS memorial John Howell Park in Virginia-Highland, would pass it to Harry Brown, long-time top AIDS fund-raiser from Burkhart's Pub, at the intersection of Virginia and Highland avenues. During the event itself, in the early hours of July 19, the eve of the opening ceremonies, a massive crowd filled the intersection.

Biting incident alleged: Well-known physician, Dr. Stosh Ostrow, sued Southern Voice and temporarily prevented the paper from reporting that he had been arrested on felony assault charges stemming from an incident in Piedmont Park in which the HIV-positive physician allegedly bit a female jogger several times during a physical altercation. During a Sept. 17 preliminary hearing, the charge was bound over to Fulton County Superior Court. In November, an assistant district attorney for Fulton County said the court paperwork had still not been received by his office.

AUGUST

Making the world welcome—and safe: Anonymous area AIDS activists defy the Olympic trademark and distribute "Play Safe" flyers bearing an image of the Olympic rings depicted by colored condoms.

Hotlanta: The 17th annual Atlanta circuit party weekend known as Hotlanta River Expo again blew through town, this time with a few changes. Rival party promoter Steve Berman went head-to-head with expo events and was swamped. Some area underground sex club promoters also staged competing parties, which reportedly did much better. In the aftermath, the Sheraton Colony Square Hotel's new management informed the expo that it would no longer be welcome in Midtown's biggest hotel due to a complaint from a straight female guest that she had seen two men having sex in a women's bathroom that weekend.

Out Olympian: The only openly gay athlete to make their presence know at the Gay & Lesbian Visitors Center was Imke Duplitzer, a lesbian fencer from Germany. The 21-year-old was first alternate on the

>Continued on Page 12

1996 in Review: Home Front

➢Continued from Page 11

German fencing team and did not compete. She spent some time at the center, sipping coffee, making friends and responding to interviews.

Garner tapped for two honors: Lesbian activist Joan Garner was appointed to the Atlanta-Fulton County Library Board and was accepted into the 1997 class of an elite networking institution—Leadership Atlanta. Garner is the executive director of the Fund for Southern Community, which makes grants to progressive grassroots projects.

E. BENNETT

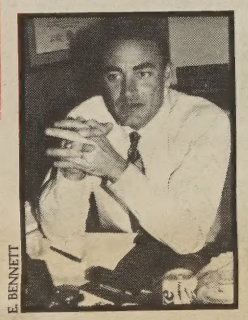
Lesbian activist Joan Garner was appointed to the Atlanta-Fulton County Library Board and was accepted into the 1997 class of Leadership Atlanta.

SEPTEMBER

Black Pride Weekend: Presenting a more organized front under the auspices of In The Life, Atlanta's traditional Black Pride event on Labor Day weekend was a success, despite some disappointing weather.

Good-bye... & thanks: The Gay & Lesbian Visitor's Center closed after Labor Day weekend, reopening briefly for a good-bye party and fund-raiser for Julie Rhoad, who spearheaded the center's founding and ended up financing much of the cost of the center.

It's the law! On Sept. 5, Atlanta Mayor Bill Campbell signed long-delayed legislation allowing domestic partners of city employees to enroll for health, dental and life insurance benefits. The city council approved the legislation Sept. 3 by a vote of 11 to 5. It restored a controversial 1993 program struck down by the Georgia Supreme Court in 1995. Atlanta joined other cities such as Boston, San Francisco, Seattle and Miami which offer insurance benefits to unmarried live-in partners.



E. BENNETT

Tony Braswell left his job as executive director of the Grady Health System's infectious disease program for the top job at AID Atlanta.

Braswell tapped to lead AID Atlanta: On Sept. 23, Tony Braswell left his job as executive director of the Grady Health System's infectious disease program for the top job at AID Atlanta, the oldest and largest AIDS service agency in the Southeast.

OCTOBER

Insurance commissioner nixes car insurance discount for same-sex couples: Citing Georgia's new law prohibiting recognition of same-sex marriage, Insurance Commissioner John Oxendine barred automobile insurance companies from offering multi-car discounts to domestic partners. Six ITT Hartford insurance companies filed documents with the state late in August asking to begin offering multi-car discounts to domestic partners and were refused. Married couples receive discounts, usually from 10 percent to 15 percent, when they insure more than one family vehicle with a company.

Hepatitis A targets Atlanta gay men: After an outbreak of hepatitis A among gay men in Midtown, the state health department starts a successful campaign to encourage area residents to receive free vaccinations.

Pam Parsons revisited: On the occasion of the debut of the Atlanta Glory, a professional women's basketball team, Southern Voice updated the story of Pam Parsons, the highly successful women's basketball coach whose coaching career at the University of South Carolina 15 years ago ended because of a lesbian sex scandal. Parsons and her lover, Tina Buck, are still together and living quietly in Buckhead.

Lambda Center opens: The long-awaited Atlanta Lambda Center opened Oct. 19 in 2,000 square feet of space at 828 W. Peachtree St., the same building that houses AIDS Survival Project, Jerusalem House offices and the Atlanta Pride Committee.

AIDS Walk passes $1 million goal: Citing great weather and a huge crowd, AID Atlanta reported its gross receipts from the Oct. 20 AIDS Walk totaled more than $1 million. Net proceeds were expected to exceed $700,000, up almost 35 percent from last year. In May, walk officials announced it had again hired a professional management firm, Miller, Zeichik & Associates of Los Angeles, after running the event in-house in 1995 and seeing net proceeds drop almost $200,000. AID Atlanta had dropped Miller, Zeichik after criticism that overhead costs were too high in 1994.

NOVEMBER

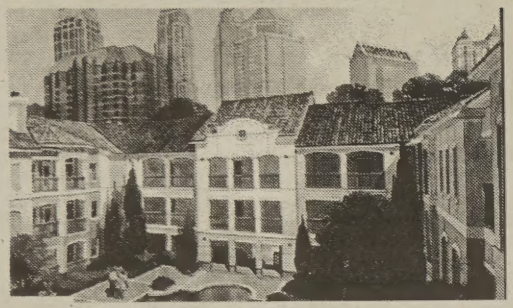
Pro-gay congresswoman wins: In one of few high notes in a national election that failed to inspire l/g/b/t voters, staunchly pro-gay Georgia Rep. Cynthia McKinney won a very tight race in a newly redrawn district.

Redd steps down at Project Open Hand: After two years on the job, executive director Loretta Redd, Ph.D., resigned from Project Open Hand, the service agency that daily delivers prepared meals to 420 people with AIDS. Redd cited personal reasons in announcing a move to San Francisco.

DECEMBER

City contractors may not fire gays: Atlanta Mayor Bill Campbell signed an order requiring businesses contracting with Atlanta city government to have employment policies prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation.

Midtown.
My town.



Among the towers of Midtown Atlanta is Legacy Villas, a unique community of gracious apartment homes with all the charm you've been looking for. It's also your membership to a state-of-the-art fitness center, a sparkling swimming pool, and the convenience of an on-site business center. All this within a short walk of Piedmont Park and the excitement of Midtown. Come see how enjoyable living in the city can be, and how you can make Midtown **your** town.

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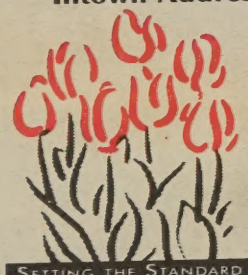

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COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY SUPPORT, SPORTS WINNERS MARK 1996

YouthPride going strong in 1996: Atlanta's YouthPride celebrated its first anniversary in January and kept going strong throughout the year. The group for gay, lesbian and bisexual teens and young adults added a peer help line in 1996 which, along with weekly support group meetings and a monthly coffeehouse social, has helped give information and support to more than 200 local gay and lesbian youths.

Decatur-DeKalb gay-straight alliance forms: A group of teachers, psychologists, social workers and clergy joined together in March in an effort to help area gay youth cope with abuse, verbal harassment, coming out, suicide and other issues. The alliance, which was able to form partly because of a $2,948 grant from the Metropolitan Atlanta Community Foundation, hosts monthly forums and discussion groups on topics of interest to the gay/lesbian community.

Sports specials: Atlanta Rainbow Trout, a gay and lesbian competitive swim team, defeated more than 40 non-gay teams from around the South to win the Killer Whales' St. Patrick's Day Invitational, the premier indoor competition that featured 250 swimmers from eight states. Atlanta also hosted the 1996 Peach Basket Classic, a national gay men's basketball tournament. At the 18th annual Atlanta's Armory Sports Classic, the Armory Attack emerged victorious in the men's soccer competition. Hotlanta softball fielded 40 teams this summer. During Labor Day weekend we saw yet another successful Peach tennis tournament with around 200 gays and lesbians vying for the crystal peach trophy. And in the fall a new game came to town: women's flag football.

HRC honors local heroes: At this year's Atlanta Human Rights Campaign dinner, local activist and now Southern Voice circulation manager Cheryl Summerville was presented with the HRC Torch Award for her work toward ending workplace discrimination. HRC's 1996 Dan Bradley Humanitarian Award went to the Rev. Mike Cordle, senior minister of the St. Mark United Methodist Church for creating an atmosphere in the church where gay, lesbian and straight people feel at home. The 1996 Community Leadership Award was presented to Cherry Spencer-Stark, co-chair of the Georgia Equality Project. Spencer-Stark, a Cobb County psychiatric nurse, has lobbied for gay rights since the Cobb resolution was passed in 1993.

An Atlanta gay soccer team, Armory Attack, played hard at this year's Armory Sports Classic.

Pride run nation's largest: Participation in Atlanta's Pride run exceeded the participation in cities like New York and San Francisco. About 800 runners participated in Atlanta's annual Lesbian & Gay Pride Run/Walk, making it the largest pride run in the country. Through participation fees, donations and a matching federal grant, the

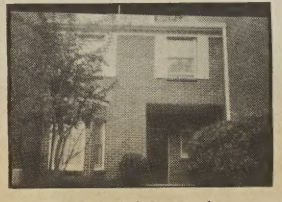
➢Continued on Page 17

FEATURED REAL ESTATE

Northlake

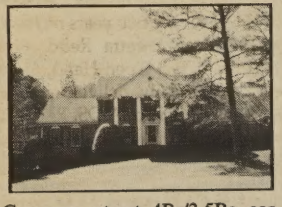
Beautiful vaulted ceilings throughout! 3Br, deep wooded lot, extra large master, floor to ceiling windows. $117,293.
Ed Gonzalez 404-646-1249

Morningside



Fee simple brick townhome, 3Br/2.5Ba, dining/living rm w/ wet bar, fpl. & shelving. $159,900
Michael Hoskin
Rogers Barry

Stone Mountain



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Dale Modica

Emory

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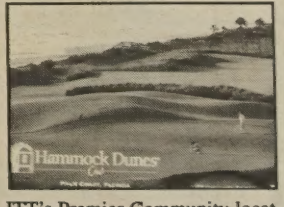
Hammock Dunes



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ORGANIZATIONS

AIDS ORGANIZATIONS

AID Atlanta–872-0600. HIV/AIDS direct services, education, volunteer programs, early care clinic, and free, anonymous HIV testing. Web site: www.aidatlanta.org

AIDS Coalition of NE GA–706/542-2437–fax 706/549-2730–provides support services to PWAs, their families & friends, & community education & awareness. Open Mon-Fri 10-4. e-mail:aidsathe@music.cc.uga.edu

AIDS Education Program for Asians & Pacific Islanders–5302 Buford Hwy., Suite B-3, Doraville, 30340–Call Jennifer @ 770/936-0969–Providing cultural/language appropriate AIDS services for & about Asians & Pacific Islanders.

AIDS Education/Svcs for Minorities–POB 87277, Atl, 30337, 753-2900, 753-7733vm–a certified nonprofit, community-based service org. which provides transitional housing, education outreach & case management to gay African-American men living w/ HIV/AIDS.

AID Gwinnett–POB 884 Lawrenceville, GA 30246, 770/962-8396–respond to the HIV/AIDS epidemic thru advocacy, education, & collaboration w/ other agencies.

AIDS Hotline for Women–888-9991

AIDS Info Line–876-9944 (Atlanta); 1-800-551-2728

AIDS Legal Project–614-3969–free legal services in civil matters to low income persons living w/ HIV/AIDS.

AIDS Outreach Sewing Guild–325-4143

AIDS Research Consortium of Atlanta (ARCA)–876-2317

AIDS & Substance Abuse Speakers Network–770/977-7797

AIDS SUPPORT–Jewish Family Services–888-6400, #76

AIDS Survival Project (formerly Atlanta NAPWA)–874-7926 (voice); 872-1192 (fax)–diverse people living w/ HIV united to promote the education & self-empowerment of HIV-affected individuals.

AIDS Treatment Initiatives–874-4845, 125 5th St. NE, Atl, 30308, or fax 874-9320–provides access to experimental, alternative & complimentary medical treatments for people living w/ HIV.

Atlanta Gay Center Clinic–67 12th St.–876-5372–Anonymous HIV testing; confidential screening of other sexually transmitted diseases; complete pretest & post-test counseling. Mon-Thurs eve., 5:30-9:30pm.

Atlanta Interfaith AIDS Network–874-8686

Atlanta Lesbian AIDS Project–POB 5409, Atlanta 30307

The Billings House–1634 Ponce de Leon Ave., NE, 30307–404/373-2693

Brother Back 2 Back–770/593-5805–POB 11366, Atlanta 30310–African-American HIV/AIDS support group.

Chapel Hill AIDS Related Ministries (CHARM)–243-5020–Support groups for the HIV infected & affected.

Childkind–828 W. Ptree St., Ste. 201, Atlanta 30308, 892-8313

Common Ground–874-6425–new ways of finding safe places for people infected w/ & affected by HIV/AIDS.

First MCC AIDS Ministry–325-4143

Ga. AIDS Therapy Information Network–1-800-551-2728

Good Samaritan Project–872-0600

Grady Memorial Hospital Infectious Disease Program–341 Ponce de Leon Ave., Atlanta 30308, 404/616-2440

Haven House at Midtown Inc.–A full service health-care provider, including hospice–404/874-8313

Home But Not Alone–1745 Peachtree Rd., NE Atlanta, GA 30309–875-7881 Ext. 27 or 54

Integrated Care Program–Case management, primary health care services and affordable housing. 404/635-9144

Jerusalem House–527-7627

The Living AIDS Memorial Park Project–876-0105

Outreach, Inc.– 3030 Campbellton Rd. Atlanta 30311–346-3922 or 1-800- 441-2437– the 1st African-American HIV/AIDS & substance abuse service agency in GA & the oldest in the South.

Pets Are Loving Support (P.A.L.S.)–876-PALS

Portsbridge–Residential hospice care for PWA(s)–770/936-9546

Positive Impact–885-9040–no-cost counseling for people affected by HIV w/ low incomes. Call to receive services or to volunteer.

Positive Outlook, formerly P.O.O.H.–404/292-7451–A social group for HIV+ gay men.

Project Open Hand Atlanta–404/872-8089–home delivered meals for people w/ AIDS-related illnesses. 176 Ottley Dr. NE Atlanta, GA 30324-3925

Sisterlove, Inc.–753-7733 (voice); or 753-1500 (fax)–nonprofit organization that provides support services to HIV+ women & HIV/safer sex education to the community.

ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT/CULTURE

Amethyst–Literary Magazine. Seeks stories, poems, essays, visual artwork. Bi-annual (circ.5,000). 1083 Austin Ave NE, Atlanta, GA 30307. 404/523-4600.

Atlanta Diversity Chorale–770/739-5607

Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus–770/438-5823–a non-auditioned chorus celebrating strength & diversity in women thru music.

Atlanta Freedom Marching Band–622-0666–gay & lesbian marching band organized to provide a musical outlet for community. All instruments & auxiliary members needed.

Atlanta Gay & Lesbian Arts Festival–POB 55475 Atlanta 30308–Annual festival in support of our community. Call 874-8710.

Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus–POB 77114, Atlanta 30357, 770/977-6310

Atlanta Lesbian & Gay History Thing–POB 7032, Atl 30357, 876-1060–preserves, promotes, & protects lesbian & gay history & culture.

Atlanta Rainbow Ensemble–633-9419

Funny...That Way Theatre Company–731 Highland Ave., Studio B, Atlanta, GA 30312. 404-893-3344.

Dichotome–2300 Bankhead Hwy. #86 Austell–770-919-7557

Keyhole Entertainment, Inc.–Producers of annual AIDS benefit "Peepshow" for the Grady Adolescent AIDS program & other Atlanta events. –Contact Chris Whitmire at 770/465-9839

Pen-draggin' Poets–523-3639

Southeastern Arts, Media & Education Project, Inc–733-6112–884 Monroe Dr. NE, 30308

Southern Country Atlanta–908-7480

BARS

The Armory–836 Juniper. 881-9280

Backstreet–845 Peachtree St. 873-1986

Blake's–227 10th St. 892-5786

Buddies Cheshire Sq.–2345 Cheshire Br. Rd. 634-5895

Buddies Midtown–239 Ponce de Leon. 872-2655

Bulldogs–893 Peachtree. 872-3025

Burkhart's–Ansley Square. 872-4403

The Chamber–2115 Faulkner Rd. 248-1612

Club LeBuzz–585 Franklin Rd, Marietta–770/424-1337

E.S.S.O.–489 Courtland St.–872-3776

The Eagle–306 Ponce De Leon. 87EAGLE

Guys & Dolls–2788 E. Ponce de Leon Ave. 377-2956

The Heretic–2069 Cheshire Bridge. 325-3061

Hoedowns–931 Monroe Drive (in the Midtown Promenade)–876-0001

Karats–511 Peachtree. 872-9777

Kaya–874-4460

Loretta's–708 Spring St. 874-8125

March–550-C Amsterdam Ave. NE–404/872-6411

The Metro–1080 Peachtree St.–874-9869

Model T–699 Ponce de Leon, 872-2209

Moreland Tavern–1196 Moreland Ave. S.E. 622-4650

My Sisters' Room–931 Monroe Drive (Midtowne Promenade)–404/875-6699

New Order–1544 Piedmont. 874-8247

Opus 1–1086 Alco St. 634-6478

The Otherside–1924 Piedmont Rd. 875-5238

Phoenix–567 Ponce De Leon. 892-7871

Players–800 Sandtown Rd, Marietta 770/429-9115

Revolution–Ansley Square–874-8455

Scandals–Ansley Square. 875-5957

Spectrum–Ansley Square 875-8980

DIRECT ACTION/POLITICAL

ACLU of GA–142 Mitchell St., Suite 301, Atlanta 30303, 523-5398–legal assistance or referral in cases where the denial of rights is due to the victim's sexual orientation.

ACLU/Lesbian &Gay Chapter–523-5398

ACT UP–828 W. Peachtree St., NW, Suite 206A, Atlanta 30308-1146–(vm) 874-6782, (fax) 872-1192

Atlanta Greens, Green Party USA, Lesbian-Gay-Bi-Queer Caucus–770/368-7137

Auburn Gay Lesbian Association–POB 821, Auburn, AL 36830–334/887-7638

Catalyst–404/776-1478

Cobb Citizens Coalition–POB 965336, Marietta 30066, 770/677-9850–Education, positive community & political outreach efforts on human rights (primarily sexual orientation) issues.

Decatur-DeKalb Gay Straight Alliancee–Outreach toeducate and improve understanding and quality of relationships among the gay and straight communities. 404/378-7210

FORM Georgia–Gay marriage group. formga@aol.com (local)-404/315-1399–FORM, POB 95354, Atlanta, GA 30347, FORM (national) 227 Chelsea St., E. Boston, MA 02128–617/569-9733, FORMBOSTON@aol.com

Gay/Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation–POB 78707, Atlanta 30357-2707–876-1398–GLAADATL@AOL.com. Promotes fair, accurate, & inclusive representation of individuals & events in all media as a means of combating homophobia & all forms of discrimination based on sexual orientation or identity.

Georgia Advocates for Battered Women & Children/Lesbian Task Force–524-3847, or toll-free 1-800-643-1212; 250 GA Ave. SE, Rm. 365, Atlanta 30312–a statewide coalition working to end the violence against women & children.

Georgia Equality Project–POB 78351, Atlanta 30357-2351–770/662-4030 vm

Georgia Log Cabin Republicans–Meet the 1st Thurs. of every month at 7 p.m. at The Grand, Club Room, 75 14th Street, N.E. The club will not meet in July or August. Call 770/849-6060 for more info.

Georgia Patriot Party–874-3185 for info–Independent third party supporting democratic reform. Meets 2nd Saturday of every month.

Human Rights Campaign–Atlanta–POB 78401, Atl 30357, 770/840-6969 (vm)

LesBiGay Connection–POB 56701, Macon, GA 31208-6701–912/742-2437

Lesbian Avengers–798-7742

National Organization for Women–875-0176

N.O.W. Sexual Orientation Rights Task Force–404/875-0176–Grassroots politics & coalition building. Works within NOW to ensure rights for lesbians/gays.

Out Front–POB 12369, Atlanta 30355

Queer Planet–875-7711–Using our queer identities to fight homophobia & all oppression. Meets every Wed., 7:30 pm at AIDS Survival Project, 828 W. Peachtree St., N.W.,#206A

Republicans for Individual Freedoms–PO 13162, Atl, GA 30324, 239-1679–gay republicans fighting "homophobia" in Republican party & fighting "Republiphobia" in the gay community.

Socialist Worker's Party–404/724-9759–803 Peachtree St. NE Atlanta, 30308

Straight But Not Narrow–POB 71202, Atlanta 30306–770/242-2256–Straight people working in coalition w/ l/g/b/t people. We believe in fairness & equality & the power to make positive change. Call for info on volunteer opportunities.

STOP Bias Crimes Hot Line–605-STOP

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GARDOCKI & HARPER
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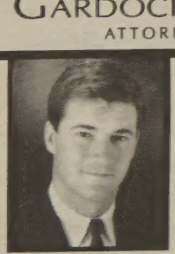
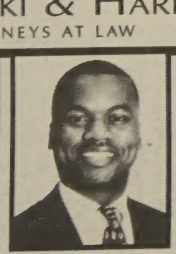

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OUTLINES

COMMUNITY PROFILES

Every week Southern Voice features a short profile of someone from the gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender community and gives our readers a glimpse of what a diverse bunch of folks we are. And since nothing says so much about a person as what gets under their skin, here's a few of our favorite pet peeves from the Outlines of '96.

"Small talk"—Cammie Hume, coffee bartender

"Flirty waiters"—Chris Wilson, retail manager

"People waking me up"—Jack Erdman, salesman

"When the dog gets up on the furniture"—Pamela Maragh, choreographer

"People who don't understand Virgos"—Elizabeth Hashimoto, operations manager

"Those new cars with the headlights that stay on"—Tricia Watson, business owner

"Being asked about pet peeves"—Lynette (Sydney) Cortellino, Registered Nurse

"People who call me Antonio"—Antonia Randolph, development assistant

"Pseudo-intellectuals, non-smoking sections and the fact that Madonna's love child isn't mine"—Jeff Clemmons

"Strippers with bad teeth"—Talitha Mowery, actress/waitress

"Atlanta's current shortage of really fun nightspots"—Paul Wilson, graphic designer

OCCASIONS

COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS

ANNIVERSARIES

Lisa and Sherry, who celebrate their two year anniversary on Jan. 4, 1997. "May you share a lifetime together in your house across the street."

Dr. John Moore and Rev. Reid Christensen of the First MCC of Atlanta celebrated their 20th anniversary Jan. 1.

Cheryl Summerville and Sandra Riley celebrated their 15th anniversary Feb. 20th.

John-Ivan Weaver and Diego Sans celebrated 20 years together in March.

Laurie and Susie Kezh celebrated their 13th anniversary April 3.

Brenda and Mariea Flynt celebrated 13 years of being together July 20.

Buford Sexton and Terry Klusar celebrated their 12th anniversary Aug. 2.

Forrest Ross and Dennis Edwards celebrated 23 years together on Aug. 29.

Rocky Nixon and Louis Gary celebrated 14 years of a committed, loving relationship on Aug. 22.

Marsha Mitchiner and Dr. Shirley Chancey celebrated 21 years together on Aug. 20.

Michael Lynch and Robin Davidson celebrated their 19-year anniversary Aug. 16.

James M. Johnson and Harry A. Pass celebrated 22 years together Sept. 7.

Shane Norris and Steve Sullivan celebrated their 15th anniversary on Sept. 12.

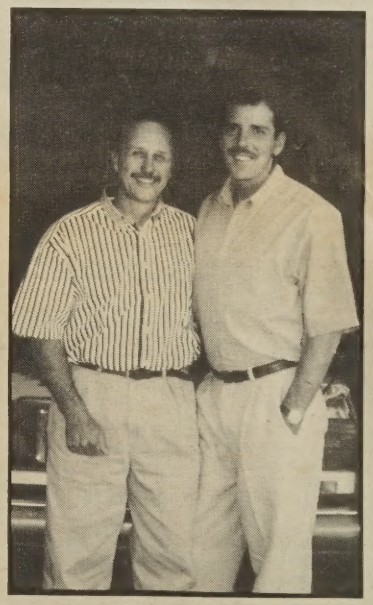
Alan Mynatt and Jon Aiken celebrated 16 years as a couple on Dec. 23.

BIRTHDAYS

Happy belated birthday Dec. 23 to Michael Fields from Robert.

A very happy day to D. J. Benefield who'll be 36 on Jan. 8.

Happy birthday Helena Cragg on your 31st birthday, Jan. 8. Love, Michelle.



Jerry Bright and Rick Porter celebrated 14 years of companionship April 27.

WHEN YOU'VE GOT A SPECIAL OCCASION, SEND IT TO SOUTHERN VOICE/OCCASIONS, 1095 ZONOLITE ROAD, ATLANTA, GA 30306, CALL 404/876-1819, OR FAX TO 404/876-2709. PLEASE INCLUDE A PHONE NUMBER FOR VERIFICATION.

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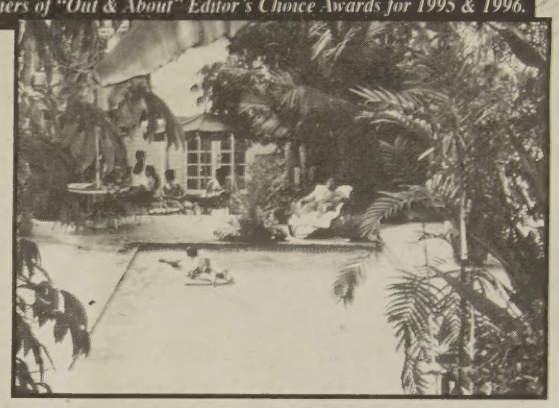

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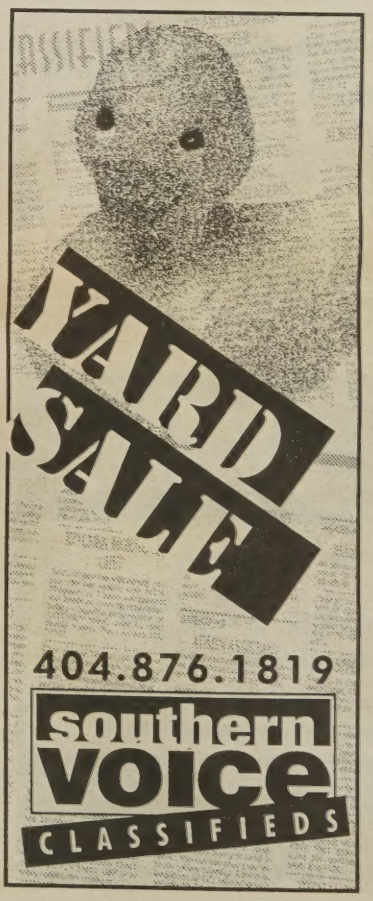

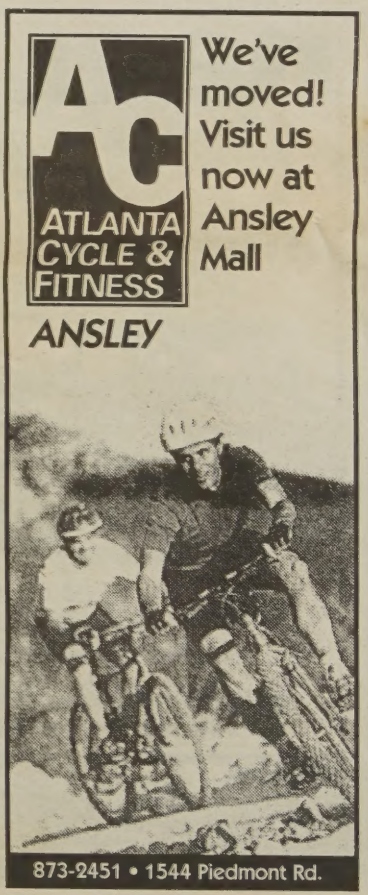

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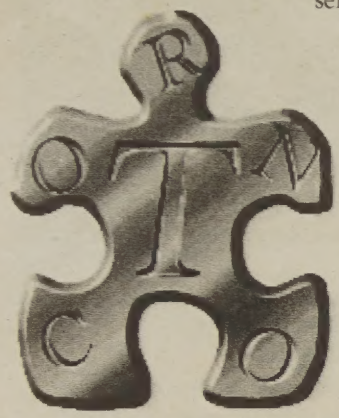

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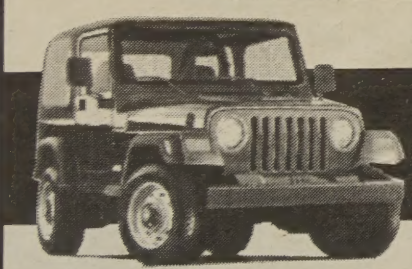

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ORGANIZATIONS

➢ Continued from page 14

NATIONAL

Human Rights Campaign–1011 14th St. NW, Suite 200, Washington, D.C. 20005, 202/628-4160
Lambda Legal Defense Fund–666 Broadway, 12th floor, New York, NY 10012, 212/ 995-8585
National Gay & Lesbian Task Force–1517 U. Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20009, 202/ 332-6483
Old Lesbians Organizing for Change–OLOC, POB 980422, Houston, TX 77098

PROFESSIONAL

American Express GLOBE–770/417-3347–An employee network.
Atlanta Executive Network (AEN)–POB 77267 Atlanta 30357-1267–814-1418–Atlanta's largest business & professional group. 6pm third Thursday. Members $10. Guests $20.
Bar Owner's Assn–POB 15114, Atlanta 30333-0114
CDC/ATSDR Association of Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual Employees (GLOBE)–404/639-3131
Community Network for Counseling Psychology & Social Work–315-8945
Emory GLOBAL–Gay, lesbian & bisexual faculty & students.–727-6692
Fourth Tuesday–662-4353
Gay/Lesbian Postal Employees Network (G/L PEN)–POB 580397, Minneapolis, MN 55458-0397
GA Association of Physicians for Human Rights (GAPHR)–231-2251
GLOBES–POB 7864, Athens, GA 30604–706/546-4611–Gay, lesbian, or bisexual employees & supporters at UGA for faculty, staff & graduate students.
GLSTN–Gay, Lesbian, Straight Teacher Network–POB 5512, Atlanta 31107–404/872-4320
Greater Atlanta Business Coalition–Promotes & encourages economic devel-opment & growth of businesses in the lesbian & gay community. 377-4258
League Atlanta, Inc.–POB 7784, Atlanta GA 30357–404/248-2009–Lesbian, Bisexual & gay United employees–an educational, resource & support group for all employees at AT&T.
National Gay Pilots Association–POB 27542, Washington, D.C. 20038-7542, 703/660-3852
Stonewall Bar Association of Georgia, Inc.– Georgia's voice for gay, lesbian & bi attorneys&legal professionas–POB 7708, Atlanta, GA 30357–404/621-4663

SPIRITUAL

Abundant Grace Community Church–743 Virginia Ave., N.E. 30306–404/ 815-0036–Independent Christian church serving the gay & lesbian community of Atlanta.
All Saints Metropolitan Community Church –957 N. Highland Ave.–404/524-9090–Sunday morning services at 11 a.m. In-town church for Atlanta's lesbian and gay community.
Atlanta Church of Religious Science–1700 Commerce Dr., Bldg. C, Suite 100, Atlanta, 30318–355-3767–We see & use the thread of truth that runs thru all great religious teachings.
Christ Covenant MCC, 109 Hibernia Ave. Decatur, GA 30030–404/373-2933–Christian community accepting & celebrating spiritual & cultural diversity in human experience, reason & art.
Circle of Grace Community Church–404/624-1140–Atlanta Friends Meeting House, 701 W. Howard Ave., Decatur–A Christian feminist worshipping community, where all are welcome. Services are on Sundays at 6pm.
Circle of Love Fellowship–778 Ray Rd., Suite 108 (Memorial Bend Office Park)–1-800-938-4120–A spiritually-based interdominational ministry of the gay/les/bi/trans community to all people of color and non-color. Sunday worship at 10 am.
Clifton Presbyterian Church–404/373-3253
Congregation Bet Haverim (Jewish)–770/642-3467–a Reconstructionist Synagogue serving the lesbian & gay community.
Dignity/Atlanta–770/409/0203–POB 14342, Atlanta 30324–Gay & Lesbian Catholics who provide spiritual support.
Family of God MCC–Columbus, GA–706/321-9202–Worship services 6:30 pm Sunday at the Unitarian Church, 1442 Double Churches Rd.
Fellowship of Love Christian Church–Columbus, GA–706/660-0101
First Existentialist Congregation of Atlanta–378-5570–celebrating human liberation & diversity for 18 years w/ respect for individual beliefs.
First Metropolitan Community Church of Atl–404/325-4143–Christian church serving the gay & lesbian community, their families, & friends since 1972. Seven cell groups, including one in Rome.
Friends for Lesbian & Gay Concerns (Quakers)–872-9682
Gay Spirit Visions–292-8567
Goddess Oriented Spirituality Group–770/987-0402
Georgia for Religious Freedom–POB 88750 Atlanta 30356 –351-7034–A nondenominational, nonpartisan community organization dedicated to preserving the religious liberties & freedoms of all Americans.
Georgia Mountains Unitarian/Universalist Church–Hwys 400 & 60, Dahlonega–706/ 864-0661
Grant Park Aldersgate United Methodist Church–404/627-6221; 575 Boulevard SE
Integrity (Episcopal)–770/642-3183
Interweave/Unitarian Universalist Congregation–634-5134, George at 688-2242–G/L/B Unitarian Universalists & others interested in spiritual development within a liberal, non-creedal atmosphere.
Lutherans Concerned/Atlanta–636-7109
Mormons:Gay, Lesbian & Bi-sexual Latter Day Saints of Atlanta–404/244-9576–A social-support org. (non-church affiliated) is forming to provide fellowship, encouragement & monthly interactions for g/l/b mormons, their family & friends.
Mount Calvary Lighthouse–POB 2454, Smyrna GA 30081–770/319-8357–Holds services every 4th Wed. at 7pm.
New Age Gays–770/434-7338
Oakhurst Presbyterian Church–378-6284
Redefined Faith Worship Center–388-4624
Seventh-day Adventist Kinship International–POB 7320, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677–714/248-1299–A nonprofit organization w/ charitable status, serving present or former Seventh-day Adventists who are lesbian, gay, bisexual or transsexual.
St. Aelred's American Apostolic Catholic Church–404/377-3780–POB 3191 Decatur 30031-A part of Independent Catholic tradition serving all of God's children regardless of gender, race, sexual orientation, or marital status. Meetings Sat. at 7:30 pm at VA-Highland Baptist Church, 743 Virginia Ave., Atlanta.
St. Mark United Methodist Church–Corner of Peachtree & 5th–404/873-2636–Sun. School: 9:45 am, services 11 am, creative worship services 6:30 pm. Wed: dinner/program 6:15 pm.
Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Atlanta–1911 Cliff Valley Way, NE–404/634-5134. Sunday services: 9:30 & 11:15 am. Coffee/Bookstore: 10:30 am-11:15 am. Childcare and childrens religious education provided.
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Athens–780 Timothy Rd., Athens–706-546-7914

SPORTS/OUTDOOR/HOBBIES

Atlanta Lavendar Martial Arts–770/928-4413–Open to all GLBT martial arts enthusiasts. Now forming group. Chenry8015@aol.com
Atlanta Rainbow Trout Swim Club–404/286-6131–Open to both men & women who are interested in swimming workouts & occasional participation at masters swim meets throughout the country. Membership fees required.
Atlanta Sierra Club–Meets at 7:30pm on 2nd Tues. of each month at the Garden Hills Community center. For more info call 607-1262.
Atlanta Team Tennis Alliance–770/621-2699
Atlanta Venture Sports–770/242-4899–social/recreational organization open to men & women. Wide variety of indoor & outdoor activities.
Atlanta Women's Soccer Club–404/624-9123–teams play at different levels of the local women's soccer league & participate in tournaments. Practice at 9am on Sat., Ebster Field, Decatur, GA. Games on Sun.
Front Runners/Atlanta–770/621-5007
Hotlanta Basketball–525-1544–no leagues, no teams; just pickup basketball w/ guys & gals every Tuesday, 8:30 to 10:30. No minimum talent level.
Hotlanta Softball League–POB 14582, Atlanta 30324, 875-1991–recreational & competitive softball for gays & lesbians - Sundays from February to November.
Hotlanta Volleyball–POB 8144, Atlanta 30306–770/621-5062–Men's spring leagues (intermediate & advanced) on Mon. & Thurs. nights, open play on Fri. Beginners, call for info.
Lambda Car Club–POB 11705, Atlanta 30355–enjoyment of collectible & special interest vehicles. Monthly meetings include shows, tours, parties & more.
O.P. Bowling League–West Georgia group bowls on Mondays 770/489-1657
OUT in Nature–619-9185
Pride Promenade Partners–404/876-3950–Ballroom dancing group for same-sex couples.
S.E. Gay Rodeo Assn–POB 7881, Atlanta, 30357. 760-8126–amateur rodeo organization which hosts a gay rodeo each April here in Atlanta.
Single Outdoor Women's Weekends at Swiftwaters–Dahlonega–706/864-3229–Hiking, Canoeing, Rafting
Wilderness Network of GA–Outdoors group for gay men (hiking, backpacking, kayaking, cycling, etc.); all levels exp., ability. SASE, POB 55156, Atlanta 30308.
Women's Outdoor Network–770/479-5773
Women's Rugby–New and experienced players wanted. Practices held on Wed and Sun. Call 770/425-7669 or 770/928-4710 for more information.
Women's Ultimate Frisbee–351-0914.
TRICKS/Bridge Club–1202 Summit North Atlanta 30324

SERVICE/SUPPORT/SOCIAL

AA&Al-Anon, Gay/Lesbian Group–881-9188
ADODI Muse-An outsider's collective-for black, gay, male writers. c/o Malik M.L. Williams, POB 92097, Atlanta, GA 30314
API-QXX–A social organization for Asian & Pacific Islander queer women in Atlnata. Meetings every 1st Sun. of the month, social events every 3rd weekend of the month.–5302 Buford Hwy, Suite B-3, Doraville, 30340.–770/451-4389, fax: 770/458-9377
Adoption Options, Rainbow Kids–404/633-6021–We help to educate prospective adoptive parents about the options, costs & the process of adoption by Gays & Lesbians.
African-American Chubs and Chasers–404/905-9641 (pgr)–For large gay black men and gay black men who prefer large partners.
Alcoholics Anonymous,Lesbian Group–404/294-0667
Amazon Salon–Young feminist network meets every other Monday, 7:30pm. Women of all ages welcome. For more info, call Donna Foote at (404) 636-0513 or (404) 875-5778.
American Educational Gender Info Service –POB 33724, Decatur 30033–404/ 939-0244 (eve)–nonprofit organization providing support for transgendered persons (transsexuals, crossdressers) referrals, information, support group. Confidential.

➢ Continued on page 18

'96 in Review

COMMUNITY

➢ Continued from Page 13

event raised $19,000, more than doubling the $8,000 raised in 1995.

ZAMI announces scholarships: ZAMI, a support group for African American lesbians in metro Atlanta, announced its Audre Lorde Scholarship Fund Awards. The awards, to be made annually, will pay tribute to the late poet Audre Lorde by promoting education. Three $1,000 scholarships will be awarded to qualified candidates who are African American, "out" lesbians and who attend a two- or four-year college in Georgia.

SALIMAH ALI

ZAMI announced its new scholarship awards this year, named in honor of the late lesbian poet, Audre Lorde.

Christ Covenant gets new home: The 130 gay and lesbian members of Christ Covenant Metropolitan Community Church worshipped for the first time Aug. 4 in their new church building in Decatur, the former Antioch African Methodist Episcopal Church at 109 Hibernia Ave. Founded in 1992, Christ Covenant is the first of the six local gay-friendly MCC congregations to worship in a traditional church building that it owns. The building was formally dedicated Sept. 29, in a ceremony officiated by MCC denomination founder, the Rev. Elder Troy Perry, of Los Angeles. The Rev. Glenna Shepherd is the church's pastor.

Outreach elects first deputy director: This summer Outreach Inc., the oldest agency in the Southeast devoted to serving HIV-infected African-American substance abusers, tapped long-time staff member Lee A. Jenkins to become its first deputy director. Jenkins has worked with Outreach since 1987.

Anniversary celebrations: October marked the 20th anniversary of the First Existentialist Congregation, which has been home to many gay and lesbian organizations and host to many benefits for our community. The Atlanta Gay Center, Atlanta's oldest lesbian and gay service organization, celebrated 20 years of service to the community in October as well. Charis Books, Atlanta's lesbian/feminist bookstore celebrated its 22nd year in November.

Out & Proud: An all-day meeting in November, Out & Proud, provided young people and concerned adults a forum at which to discuss growing up gay or lesbian. The unique event, funded by Metropolitan Atlanta Community Foundation's Lesbian and Gay Funding Initiative for Youth and IBM Corp., was very successful and enjoyed a great turn-out, sponsors said.

E. BENNETT

Members of YouthPride Atlanta marched loud and proud in this summer's pride parade.

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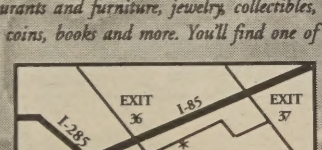

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ORGANIZATIONS

➢ Continued from page 16

Athens Lesbian Information–LSG, POB 7864, Athens, 30604–monthly potluck; weekly drop in, local restaurant; biking, hiking, camping; monthly newsletter w/ details.
Athens Youthpride–706/546-4611
Atlanta Corporal Punishment Club–Box 56024, Atlanta 30343, 404/237-2480
Atlanta Couples Together–POB 54311, Atlanta, 30308-0311. 365-2455
Atlanta Freethought Soc.–POB 813392 Smyrna, GA 30081-3392–770/641-2903–Socially engaged, non-theists advocating church/state disentanglement & rational, human centered ethics. Meet 2nd Sun.
Atlanta Gay Center–Atlanta's longest running community service since 1979. 71 12th St. 876-5372. Helpline–892-0661 (voice & TDD)– Community info by voice menu 24 hours, plus rou-tine or crisis counseling by trained volunteers from 6-11 pm daily
Atlanta Gay & Lesbian Pride Committee–404/876-3700
Atlanta Gay & Lesbian VIsitors Ctr. www.altgaylesvisit.w1.com
Atlanta Lambda Community Center–POB 15180, Atl 30333. 404/881-1985
Atlanta Lesbian Cancer Initiative –A support group for lesbians with cancer and their partners. 404/651-2866.
Atlanta Prime Timers–2480-4 Briarcliff Rd. #226, Atlanta, GA 30329-3034—770/734-2490. Chapter of international support organization for gay & bi-sexual men over 40.
Atlanta Pro-Choice Action Committee–239-8016
Atlanta Rider Group (Motorcycle)–770/938-8494-Fax
Atlanta Veteran's Alliance–POB 2202, Tucker 30085–770/939-0719
Atlanta Women of Leather (AWOL)–POB 8591, Atlanta 30306–770/662-4198
Bisexual Discussion & Support Group–for bisexuals and bi-friendlies. Meet 3rd Tues. First Existentialist Congregation, 470 Candler Park Dr. 7-9 pm, voluntary donation.–404/256-89920
BiNet Atlanta–Social/political/support group for bisexuals and bi-friendly people. Meet every 1st Wed. and evry 3rd Fri. For more info call 404/256-8992 or email at binet@mindspring.com or visit homepage at http://www.mindspring.com/~bubastis/bi-net/
Black & White Men Together–892-BWMT
Black Lesbians w/ Children–404/378-4135
Boyz of Distinction–POB 78091, Atlanta 30532
Caregivers to PWAs Support Group–874-1109 or 875-6109
Carrollton Gay Community Newsletter–POB 2416, Carrollton, GA 30117
Closet Space–support, advocacy, information, networking & education to the gay, lesbian & bisexual community of middle Georgia. POB 368, Bonaire GA 31005-0368.
Codependents Anonymous–239-1657
The Committee of Sexual Orientation Concerns of the Georgia Psychological Association–404/351-9555
Consciousness Raising & Support Group for Women in Politics & Grassroots Organizing–636-7435
Creative Spirit Support Group–Creative support group for women based on The Artist's Way. 378-3503
Decatur/DeKalb Gay-Straight Alliance–404/378-7210
Digital Queers/Atlanta–404/814-0228 vm or e-mail DQAtlanta@aol.com–Digital Queers is a National organization devoted to computer & support for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgender people. It also supports these people working in the computer industry.
Disabled Lesbian Support Group–Second Mon. of each month. Meet us for a meal & discuss issues pertaining to being disabled. 770/270-9618
Dykes on Bykes–Social/service group for lesbian motorcyclists–770/931-3362.
Emotions Anonymous–Northside Hospital at 8 pm-Fridays–Johnson Ferry Rd. & P'tree Dunwoody–770/925-4825–12 step group for people who feel that they have any emotional difficulties. Meetings worldwide.
Feminist Women's Health Center–A safe supoortive setting, providing gynecological services especially for lesbians, with female practitioners and health workers. 404/874-7551.
First City Network, Inc.–Nonprofit org. for lesbians & gays. Hosts social events, community education forums, advocacy, information. 912/236-CITY or FCN, Box 2442, Savannah, GA 31402.
Fourth Tuesday of GA, Inc.–2480-4 Briarcliff Rd. #102, Atlanta, 30329–404/662-4353–A networking organization w/ social, recreational, educational & professional activities for all lesbians.
Friday Night Support Group–627-7387–open to all lesbians are a friendly discussion group.
Funny...That Way! Gay/lesbian/bi youth drama program. Free workshops. 404-893-3344
GAPHR's Support Group for HIV+ Dentists-Physicians.–634-0672
Gay Fathers of Atlanta–342-6451
Gay Help Line–6pm-11pm 892-0661
Gay/LesbianTask Force to the Public Safety Community of City Council–330-6504
Gen-X Bears–The international Network of Younger Bears ages 18-35–2542 Montgomery Ave., Concord, CA 94519–URL: http://www.spdcc.com/home/genx
Interact of Atlanta–770/477-3998
John Howell Park Project–876-0105
Lambda Car Club–POB 11705, Atlanta 30355–770/907-9447–Social group for men & women interested in collectible & special interest automobiles. Monthly events include shows, tours, rallies & more.
Lambda Group/Narcotics Anonymous–708-3219
Latinos En Acción–621-5743
Lesbian & Gay Parents Association of Atlanta–12,460 Crabapple Rd. Suite 202-195, Alpharetta, GA 30201–770/416-4746
Lesbians Over 50– Call Chris at 404/505-1030
Low-Cost Psychotherapy Services–provided by experienced clinicians in private-practice setting at Metropolitan Psychotherapy Community Clinic, a nonprofit organization.–404/321-4954, ext. 8.
LSG–Athens info line–706/546-4611
Men of Little 5 Points–POB 5425, Atlanta 31107, 521-1817–social & service club for gay men in the greater L5P area.
The Names Project-Atlanta-770/451-1903 ext. 262-c/o Peachtree Hospice–3600 DeKalb Technology Pkwy.–Atlanta, GA 30340
National Gay & Lesbian Journalist Association–POB 8796–734-2591
Northeast GA Mountain Family Gatherings–706/864-3229
Overeaters Anonymous (gay/lesbian group)–404-377-9565
Panther L/L, Inc.–POB 191286, Atlanta 31119-1286–One of Atlanta's most active leather/levi clubs is a nonprofit international social organization dedicated to community service.770/723-0867
Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians & Gays/Athens–706/742-9511
Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians & Gays–875-9440, POB 8482, Atlanta 30306-8482
Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians & Gays/Chattanooga–423/875-5750 or 423/622-3813
Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians & Gays/Dahlonega-N. GA Mountains–706/864-3080 or 706/864-1333.
Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians & GaysSouthside–404/691-4729
Photographers & Filmmakers of Color–A network to help promote local artists. Meets twice monthly. Call Allen at 770/621-2660
Positive Black Lesbians United (PBLU)– POB 655, Avondale Estates, GA 30002. 250-7950 – positive lesbians of color exchanging powerful, productive & educational ways of dealing w/ our everyday challenges.
Pride for Asian Youth (PAY)–5302 Buford Hwy., Suite B-3, Doraville, GA 30340–Contact Jennifer at 770/451-4389, fax: 770/458-9377. A social/support group for g/l/b Asian-American youth.
The Rainbow Project—Ending violence in our relationships. For info, call 404/325-0090 or 875-8777.
Second Sunday Men's Discussion Group–POB 310, Decatur 30301, 404/325-7321. Support group for African-American gay & bisexual men. Also sponsors retreats & forums.
Servicemembers Legal Defense Network (SLDN)–Helps men & women hurt by the military's gay ban. Call (202) 328-FAIR for confidential counseling.
Sexual Compulsives Anonymous–239-8048
Single Lesbians Considering Parenting–404/373-8692
Sisters of 30 Something Special–997-6240
The Society for the Pyschological Study of Lesbian and Gay Issues; Division 44 of the American Psychological Association–404/378-3106
Southern Bears, Inc.–POB 13964, Atlanta 30324–404/908-3381
Survivors of Incest Anonymous–POB 2013, Decatur, GA 30031; 239-8018
Trikone–South Asian Gay & Lesbian Org.–892-0475–Meets 2nd Sat. each month at 5pm.
TurnOut–404/321-3104–Turner Broacasting System's LesBiGay employee support network.
Uniformed Services Activity–Box 6057, Arlington, VA 22206
Women's Resource Center–688-9436 (WRC)–free, confidential supportive services for battered lesbians. 24-hour crisis line, support group, legal advocacy, shelter.
Young Adult Support Group–Atlanta Gay Center. 63 12th St.–876-5372–For younger gays & lesbians 14-24. Free of charge; Thurs: 6:30-8pm.
YouthPride–Teen support group (13-18) Wed. eve. 6:30-8 pm, Young Adult Personal Growth Group (18-24) Wed eve. 8:30-10 pm–815-9965
YouthPride Helpline–Support, information and referrals for gay, lesbian, and bisexual youth in the metro Atlanta area. Thurs & Fri, 6pm–10pm–404/892-1122
Zami–POB 2502, Decatur, GA 30031–370-1392–Support-discussion group for African-American lesbians. Meets 2nd & 4th Sun. from 6:30-8:30pm.

STUDENTS/ALUMNI

Delta Lambda Phi–National social gay fraternity–All Campuses–365-5357–931 Monroe Dr. Ste. 102-287, 30308-1778
Emory GLOBAL–727-6692–Gays, lesbians or bisexuals & Allies League.
Gay & Lesbian Alliance of West GA College–POB 10007 West GA College, Carrollton, GA 30018. Open to the gay, lesbian, bisexual & straight but not narrow community.
Gays & Lesbians Student Organization at Kennesaw State College–Kennesaw Community College 423-6246
Georgia College LesBiGay Student Union–Georgia College, Milledgeville, GA 31061–Contact Wes Quesenberry, president: wque@cody.gac.peachnet.edu or Mary Jane Phillips, advisor: mjphilli@mail.gac.peachnet.edu
Georgia Tech Gay Alumni Association–POB 350291, GA Tech Station, Atlanta 30332
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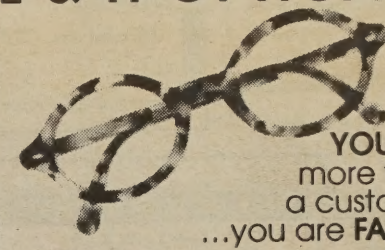
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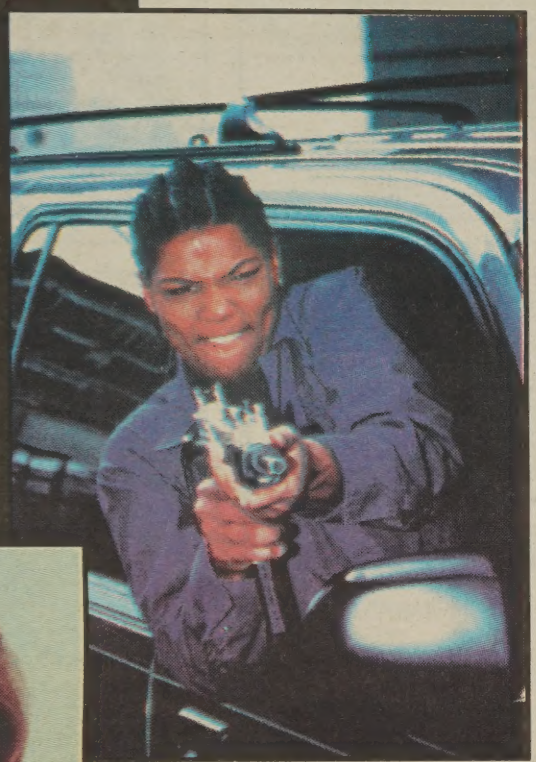
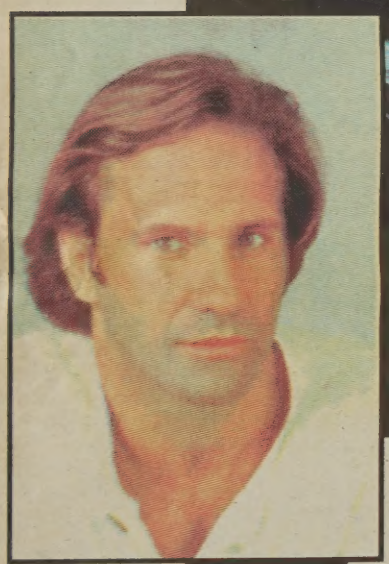
TIME OUT

'96 IN REVIEW

Gay, gay-friendl



(Above) Watch it, suckal Queen Latifah ruled as a fierce ghetto dyke in "Set It Off."



(Left) What time is recess? Handsome Chris Bruno plays gay teacher Michael Delaney on ABC's 'All My Children.'

Transgendered author and activist Leslie Feinberg, left, shown with her lover Minnie Bruce Pratt, came to town to read from her latest book, 'Transgender Warriors.'

From poignancy in TV, film & theater to the power of music, dance & visuals, Atlanta proves itself arts showcase

by DAVID GOLDMAN

A gay high school teacher; a black lesbian bank robber; a Baptist church lady planning her son's gay wedding; the brilliant writer Truman Capote searching for peace in the last years of his life; these and dozens of other gay- and lesbian-oriented characters and artists enlivened arts and entertainment in 1996.

Television

ABC's **ALL MY CHILDREN** introduced gay high school teacher Michael Delaney played by Chris Bruno, who represents a great advancement in gay visibility. Delaney not only came out to this class, but he also stood up to Pine Valley's homophobes—that awful, meddling Enid Nelson—and doggedly held onto his job. Delaney is a mentor to troubled gay student Kevin, who's been rejected by his birth family. And now, Mr. D. even has a boyfriend: a doctor, no less. Twenty-six years on the air and still getting better—AMC is the soap to watch.

A hoot while it lasted, **"THE JIM J. AND TAMMY FAYE SHOW"** brought together openly gay comic actor Jim J. Bullock and former TV preacher-lady Tammy Faye Bakker Messner. The talk show, which featured bits like exercises you can do while holding your baby, didn't last long after Bakker retired due to ill health. In November, Bullock came to Atlanta as part of the Homecoming AIDS fund-raiser.

During Pride month, the national television newsmagazine **"IN THE LIFE"** focused on the l/g/b/t community's growing visibility in film and video by showing several productions dealing with youth issues, AIDS and counteracting the radical right.

In June on the fourth annual **DAY OF COMPASSION**, more than 20 TV talk shows and soap operas featured segments advocating care and compassion for people living with AIDS.

The Lifetime cable channel's **"LATE DATE WITH SARI"** presented a special episode on which six lesbians talked about relationships and coming out. One guest was Judy Hill Nelson, who sued ex-lover Martina Navratilova for palimony.

Lesbian comic Kate Clinton joined **"THE ROSIE O'DONNELL SHOW"** as a writer. O'Donnell was the subject of much media interest: she was outed by a tabloid and dubbed the "Queen of Nice" by Newsweek.

In celebration of National Coming Out Day, Comedy Central cablecast an encore presentation of **"OUT THERE,"** the first-ever gay and lesbian comedy special, which was taped in 1993.

In November, VH-1 premiered its film of the year's **LIFEBEAT** music industry AIDS fund-raising concert. The evening's stars included Patti Smith, Chaka Khan, Tony Rich and Bon Jovi.

Theater

The Alliance Theatre staged William Inge's 1957 **"THE DARK AT THE TOP OF THE STAIRS,"** with gay associate artistic director David Bell bringing new light to the play's gay subtext.

Seven Stages Theatre in Little Five Points produced the **JIM GRIMSLEY CELEBRATION** to honor its 10-year collaboration with the Atlanta author and playwright who's now hailed nationally as a literary luminary.

Gay Atlanta playwright Steve Murray saw his play **"THIS PASSION THING"** receive its world premiere at Horizon Theater in Little Five Points. Murray called the play, which deals with crime, obsession, vampirism and stalking, "a romantic comedy—with a body count."

Atlanta's gay comedy troupe Funny . . . That Way produced another of its witty original productions in May. **"HET SIDE STORY"** parodied "West Side Story," but the gangs were called the Queers and the Hets.

Nothing short of a total media blackout could have shielded you from the tidal wave of publicity that accompanied the Broadway opening of **"RENT,"** a musical based on Puccini's opera "La Bohéme." It's multi-layered plot traces the lives of three young, racially diverse couples—one straight, one gay, one lesbian—as they struggle against eviction, unemployment, AIDS and drug abuse while clinging to their artistic visions.

The musical drama **"IN STITCHES,"** about a non-traditional family facing life and death in the early 1980s, premiered at the Gay and Lesbian Visitors' Center at Center Stage on June 24. Appropriately for a work debuting during Atlanta's Olympic summer, it was written in three different countries. Each song in the show is based on a panel in the AIDS Memorial Quilt.

This summer's **OLYMPIC ARTS FESTIVAL** spotlighted artistic endeavors in every medium, but one of the most notable events was the revival of the home-grown hit **"THE HARVEY MILK SHOW,"** which was produced for a third time by Actors Express, the company that launched the show in 1991. Just in time for the holidays, the company released the CD soundtrack of the production.

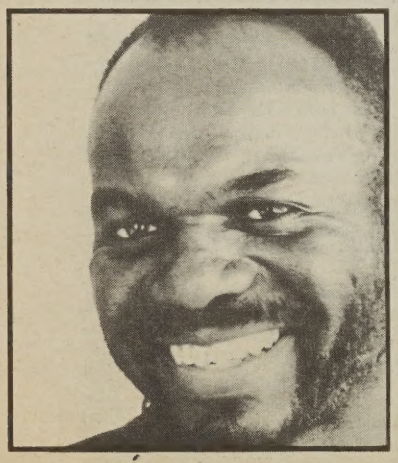
Jumping into the debate raging over Shakespeare's sexual orientation, the Shakespeare Tavern offered the poem **"VENUS**

lly arts & artists enliven year

AND ADONIS" as a performance piece with two female actors taking the title roles.

Accomplished Atlanta actor Don Finney offered a brilliant, poignant portrayal of gay writer Truman Capote in "TRU" at Theatre in the Square. It was the play's first production outside New York.

Extra performances were added to handle the crowds who flocked to see "VERANDA 2: THE SECOND COMING," staged by Elephant Shoes Productions. The play took up the story that began in "Veranda," which the company produced in 1995. Karen Beyer returned as the tiny, sweet, semi-frightening matriarch of the Edwards family; this time, she was trying to arrange the church



Released posthumously, 'Black is . . . Black Ain't' is the final film by Marlon Riggs.

Christmas pageant and her son's gay wedding at the same time.

Film and Video

Author Vitto Russo's ground-breaking book on homosexuality in the movies, "THE CELLULOID CLOSET," finally became a movie itself, narrated by Lilly Tomlin. Many of the images it records are hardly positive, but the film makes a major statement about gay and lesbian visibility long before the gay rights movement.

Southern Voice talked to gay filmmaker Pedro Almodóvar about his bold, uncompromising 11th film, "THE FLOWER OF MY SECRET." Said Almodovar: "My sexuality forms a part of everything that I do, but I think it's just another element within everything else that I mix."

Gregory Harrison and Eric Roberts teamed up to play ex-lovers in the bittersweet AIDS film "IT'S MY PARTY." The low-budget, star-studded movie tells the story of a gay man who throws himself a going-away party just before he takes his own life.

"BLACK IS . . . BLACK AIN'T," the final production by gay filmmaker Marlin Riggs ("Tongues Untied"), examines such controversial issues as sexism, class prejudice and homophobia within the black community. The film was largely unfinished when Riggs died of AIDS in 1994; his colleagues completed it to honor his memory.

Filmmaker Dirk Shafer revealed that his relationship with his lover was put to the test when he modeled for "Playgirl" and was chosen "MAN OF THE YEAR," the title of the movie he later made about his year as a closeted heartthrob.

African-American lesbian JOCELYN TAYLOR, whose work seeks to "uncover dialogues you don't normally see on television," saw eight of her most interesting videos presented at the Gay and Lesbian Visitors' Center in July.

The long-awaited film version of Martin Duberman's "STONEWALL," about the uprising that launched the modern gay liberation movement, made it to movie houses. It was produced by lesbian Christine Vachon ("Go Fish").

In the steamy and violent film noir "BOUND," Gina Gershon and Jennifer Tilly came together in some of the hottest lesbian scenes yet seen in a major motion picture.

During its five-day run, Atlanta's ninth annual OUT ON FILM festival gave audiences a feast of gay and lesbian films. Highlights included the 1971 porn classic "Boys in the Sand," and the out-of-drag RUPAUL starring in the AIDS-oriented action movie "Red Ribbon Blues."

Rap star Queen Latifah took a bold step when she portrayed a fierce ghetto dyke in the girl-gang action flick "SET IT OFF."

The sensitive, controversial subject of love between teenage boys got an inspiring treatment in the British film "BEAUTIFUL THING." With a terrific soundtrack by Mama Cass and The Mamas and the Papas, it was funny, optimistic and featured something all too rare in gay movies: a happy ending.

Music

French pianist JEAN-YVES THIBAUDET, a virtuoso interpreter of Rachmaninoff, came to town to perform with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, and he shared with our readers what it's like to be an openly gay man in the often conservative world of classical music.

DEIDRE MCCALLA, who moved to Atlanta in 1994 after recording three albums for the women's music label Olivia Records, performed as a special guest to open KATE CLINTON'S engagement at the Variety Playhouse in March.

Lesbian singer SUEDE joined the famous gay a cappella group THE FLIRTATIONS. In doing so, she helped the previously all-male ensemble heal the wound caused by the 1993 death of founding member MICHAEL CALLEN.

In April, the ATLANTA GAY MEN'S CHORUS saw a long dreamed-of project realized when it presented the world premiere of "Memento mori: an AIDS Requiem" by gay composer JAMES ADLER. The specially commissioned work is believed to be the first requiem dedicated to the memory of those claimed by the disease. In June, the AGMC performed at a special Civic Center concert that featured Le Choeur International Gai de Paris, the Paris Gay Men's Chorus.

After taking a year off from performing, Atlanta's world-famous INDIGO GIRLS headlined before an ecstatic throng of more than 225,000 at the Sunday afternoon concert during the city's biggest-ever Pride celebration in June.

On the road again for the first time since 1993, lesbian superstar k.d. lang came to town for a performance at Chastain Park. The tour promoted her album "All You Can Eat," which was certified gold less than three months after its release.

After more than a decade as hitmakers and gay culture icons, THE PET SHOP BOYS came out concurrently with releasing "Bilingual," their first new material in three years.

The lesbian singer-songwriter CATIE CURTIS, who had recently appeared on MTV and the cover of "Billboard," swung through Atlanta for a show at Variety Playhouse. shortly after the release of "Truth From Lies," her major label debut.

Hallelujah! Tammy Faye was back on this air, this time with openly gay Jim J. Bullock.

At New York's Webster Hall, some 500 music industry insiders gathered for the FIRST GAY/LESBIAN AMERICAN MUSIC AWARDS. The late Michael Callen, founder of The Flirtations, was honored with four awards, the most received by an individual.

"Advocate" columnist and revered singer/songwriter JANIS IAN, who burst on the scene almost 30 years ago with her hit "Society's Child" and later "At 17," came to town for a show at Eddie's Attic and shared her thoughts with SoVo's readers.

THE ATLANTA FREEDOM MARCHING BAND made its first concert appearance in December, performing at First Metropolitan Community Church of Atlanta along with the Chancel Choir.

As is her holiday custom, THE "LADY" BUNNY returned to Atlanta from New York, where she has achieved international fame as the Mistress of the annual Wigstock event in Greenwich Village. A large crowd of merry revelers came together at March for the Lady's X-rated show and revue.

Books

Clever columnist Meryl Cohn, a.k.a MS. BEHAVIOR, brought out a witty volume entitled "Do What I Say: Ms. Behavior's Guide to Gay & Lesbian Etiquette."

Seattle resident Ron Hall's HALL CLOSET BOOK CO. came up with the idea of making popular gay and lesbian books available on audio tape; call (800) 895-8915.

Writer CRAIG NELSON gave us "Finding True Love in a Man-Eat-Man World: The Intelligent Guide to Gay Dating, Romance and Eternal Love." "Once you know and accept yourself... you will have learned the secret method of being happy and finding a great guy," Nelson advises.

Women looking for just the right words to express their innermost romantic impulses found a new source of inspiration in LESLÉA NEWMAN'S "My Love Is a Woman: Contemporary Lesbian Love Poems." Newman is also the author of the conservative-inflaming children's book "Heather Has Two Mommies."

DON SCHUELER'S book "A Handmade Wilderness" tells how he and his lover spent a quarter of a century taming nature and building a world of their own in rural Mississippi.

In "Hidden Journey," MARK MATOUSEK documents a landscape many gay men have come to know well: from childhood trauma and the exhilaration of coming out to the anguish of AIDS and the search for spiritual authenticity in a ma-

➢ Continued on page 24

Gay, gay-friendly arts & artists enliven year

➢ Continued from page 23

terialistic society.

What would make two gay New Yorkers leave the city and buy a 60-room house in Aiken, S.C.? **GREG SMITH** and **STEVE NAIFEH** described their adventures in Southern living in their book "On a Street Called Easy in a Cottage Called Joye: A Restoration Comedy."

Transgendered author and activist **LESLIE FEINBERG** ("Stone Butch Blues") visiting Atlanta read from her new book, "Transgender Warriors," at the Gay and Lesbian Visitors' Center.

The good news is that you came out to your parents. The bad news is that now *they've* entered the closet and are intent on keeping your "dreadful secret" from other family members and friends: that's the difficult issue that's dealt with in "A Family and Friend's Guide to Sexual Orientation," by **BOB POWERS** and **ALAN ELLIS.**

The pills go in the cook, not the food: former Atlanta **ROBIN COHN** turned her battle with depression into a hilarious cookbook, "Cooking with Prozac," complete with desert recipes "to spoil your inner child."

How you gonna keep 'em down on the farm? Well, you probably can't. Writer **WILL FELLOWS** explores the world of rural gay youth in his interview anthology "Farm Boys: Lives of Gay Men from the Rural Midwest."

Fine Arts

Georgia lesbian artist **COLLEEN STERLING** used classical images to explore the mystique and power of athletes in her exhibition "Personal Excellence" at City Gallery.

Local gay artists **ROBERT SHERER** and **MICHAEL BEAUCHEMIN** were among 15 Southern painters whose works were featured in the Lowe Gallery's "American Renaissance: Paintings in the Spirit of the American South," which spotlighted more than 100 large-scale masterworks.

Erotic art by the late Beatle **JOHN LENNON,** some of which had survived being seized by the police in the 1960s, was exhibited and sold in Buckhead in a showing produced by Lasco Productions and Lennon's widow **YOKO ONO.**

At Sandler-Hudson Gallery, gay artist **LARRY JENS ANDERSON** presented an exhibit of paintings and sculpture memorializing his twin brother, who died of AIDS. The show was entitled "His Favorite Color Was Green."

Capturing the last fleeting glints of Olympic glory, the 43rd annual **ARTS FESTIVAL OF ATLANTA.** adopted the theme "Post-Olympia, or How We Spent the Summer of 1996." The artwork revealed images of victory and defeat, blimps and a bombing.

Dance

The popular performance art group **PEEPSHOW,** whose act ranges from Vegas-style production numbers to very revealing routines that put the "tease" back in striptease, performed around town to benefit such causes as ACT UP and adolescent HIV education.

San Francisco-based dancers **JON WEAVER** and **KEITH HENNESSY** brought their cutting-edge improvisational art-in-motion show to the stage of the Beacon Hill Dance Studio.

As part of its "Body & Soul" presentation at the Fox Theatre, the Atlanta Ballet commissioned a piece by gay African-American dancer **DAVID ROUSSEVE,** whose previous work has explored such issues as AIDS, racism and gender boundaries.

Events

In February, Project Open Hand took over the Atlanta Apparel Mart's atrium for the seventh annual **MASQUERADE** circuit party. The blow-out's entertainment included Sandra Bernhard, super-DJ Frankie Knuckles and Finnish pop star Missa.

The Metro Atlanta Furniture Bank hosted its third annual **CHAIRISH THE FUTURE** benefit, in which dozens of artists and designers created and donated unique pieces of chair art that were sold at auction. The event raises money to furnish the new homes of person who have been homeless until recently.

➢ Continued on page 30

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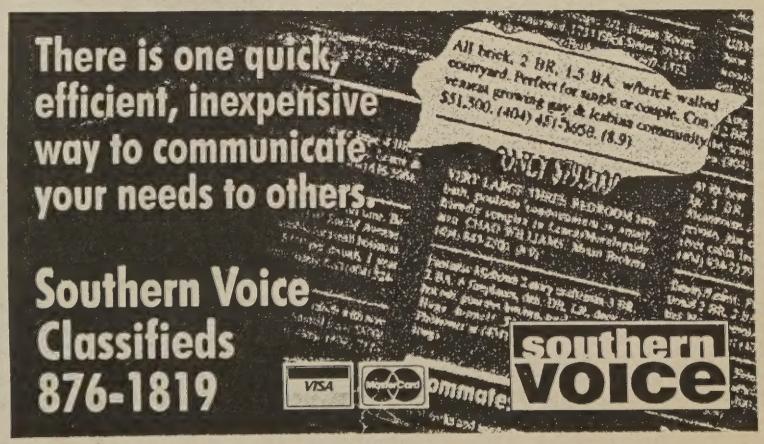
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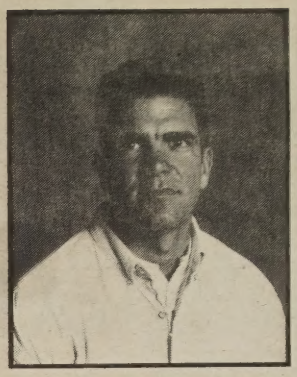
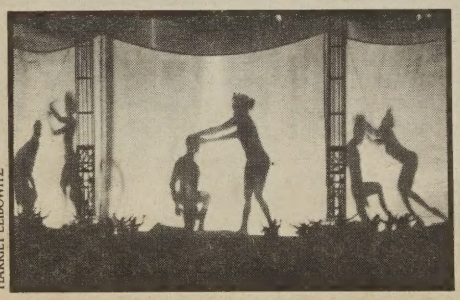


by DAVID BOSWELL

AND THE DAVEY GOES TO...

It's that time of year—time once again for those annual entertainment awards. No, not the Grammys or even the Emmys, but my personal award to honor the best this town has to offer in night life, benefits, club scene or anything else I can think of until I reach 600 words. That's right, it's time for the Daveys.

Due to budget constraints caused by the fact that my expense account for the year ran out long before Labor Day, actual gold statues molded in the likeness of me will not be handed out, however the winners are more than encouraged to clip out the column and proudly and prominently post it for all to see.



HARRIET LEIBOWITZ

Gay and lesbian talent made the spectacular Olympic Opening Ceremonies a once in a lifetime event.

ONCE IN A LIFETIME: Opening Ceremony, Centennial Olympic Games. OK, it was not an exclusively gay event, but with so many of our sisters and brothers in the ceremony and behind the scenes, it might as well have been.

ONCE IN A YEAR: The Wednesday before Thanksgiving at the Heretic. With hundreds of hot, sweaty, half-naked men, all gridlocked and in a good mood, this is one can't-miss holiday tradition.

BAR PROMOTION: Blake's "No Ho's Barred" old employee reunion. That one still makes me laugh, and I'm told that all the old ho's showed and no one was barred.

PLACE TO MEET PEOPLE: (on any given night) Outwrite Bookstore and Coffeehouse. If you don't believe me try this little experiment: 1) Turn off your TV; 2) Get your ass off the couch; 3) Head over to Outwrite; 4) Have some coffee, read a book, interact.

PLACE TO MEET PEOPLE: (during a special event) The Lowe Gallery. The next time the gallery has an artist reception, do yourself a favor and go check it out. See for yourself the great mix of people that attend these events; just tell Bill and Danny that David sent you.

BENEFIT: Homecoming. Now I hate to single out any one lone benefit, given that there was almost one benefit per week during 1996, plus the fact that they were benefits to begin with makes them all winners. Homecoming gets the Davey because it awarded 100 percent of every dime of every dollar raised to AIDS/HIV organizations: nine in all. And most importantly, it lasted the longest: one whole month.

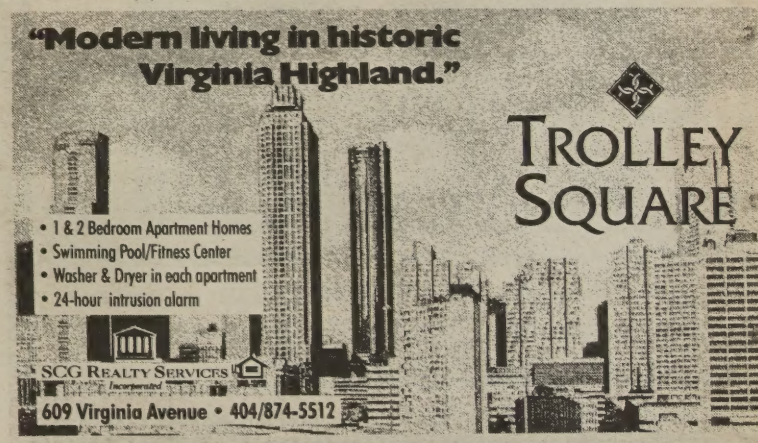
NEW WOMEN'S CLUB: My Sister's Room. OK, so that one's a gimme since technically there was only one new women's club opened in 1996. But it is really a fun place. If you don't believe me, before or after your next movie at the Midtown 8, stop in for a drink and see for yourself.

NEW MEN'S CLUB: Blue, a.k.a. KAYA, on Saturday night. Again technically not a new club, but a new Saturday night promotion. Blue features a different DJ each week making Blue/KAYA the place to party on a Saturday night.

NEW CLUB FOR MEN AND WOMEN: March. A beautiful club filled with beautiful people, beautiful art and clever weekly promotions—what more could you want?

PARTY DJ: Mark MacEwan. In one year Mark has made his mark on the party scene, spinning at parties from "Good and Evil" in the spring to "Ritual" at the end of the year and countless other clubs and parties in between.

GONE AND ALREADY ALMOST FORGOTTEN: World Party, World Carnival, World Catastrophe, (or just about any club with the word "World" in its name), House of Blues, Balance, Spectrum and Transfer.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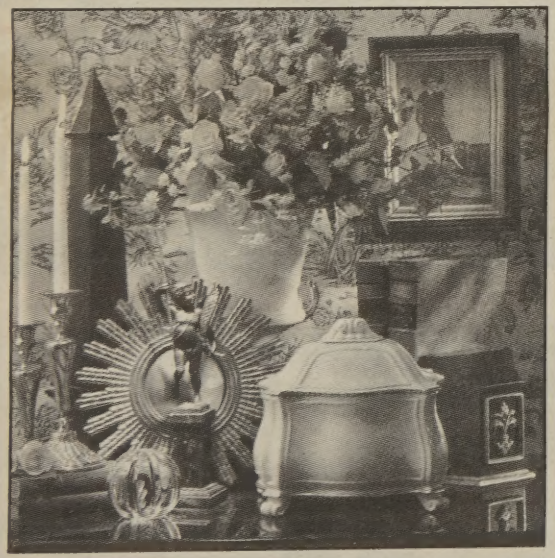

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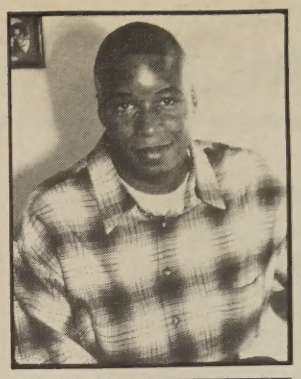
'96 IN REVIEW

SOUND ADVICE

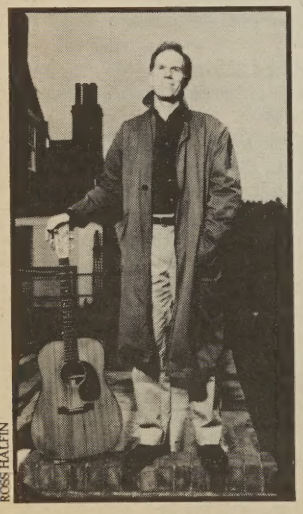
MUSIC NOTES & REVIEWS



by AUDESE GREEN

SOUND PICKS OF '96

My tenure with SoVo has allowed me a forum to review a broad range of music that few other publications would offer. Since my premier column in March, the reasonable limitations of my job have encouraged me to examine some of the brightest acts making music for the queer conscience. And, hopefully, I've turned many readers on to some artists they otherwise would have never heard of.



ROSS HALFIN

Loudon Wainwright III stands out as an unlikely dyke-rock hero for his "IWIWAL (I Wish I Was A Lesbian)."

I also learned a lot about myself through most of 1996. I know that I am not a show-tune queen; I've learned that lesbian performers generally tend to be truer artists; I've learned that AIDS, injustice and sex compel writers most commonly; I now know that it's better to let readers know when gay artists—famous or not—have put out bad product.

BIG ACTS WHO SUCKED IN '96: Michael Feinstein and RuPaul. Feinstein's "Nice Work If You Can Get It: Songs By The Gershwins" is lifeless, conveying absolutely none of the dedication Feinstein has for this body of work. As for RuPaul's latest, the over-produced, insubstantial "Foxy Lady" only out-foxes those who believe this vanilla disappointment is a dance record.

BEST LYRICIST: Dudley Saunders. This magnificent writer addresses two dilemmas gay men face on one stirring verse—AIDS and unfaithful lovers. In "My Prime" (From the Fang Records release "Restore"), Saunders reveals himself in one of his most vulnerable moments: "If I'm spared one year more/and God shall grant me grace/I'll weep a bowl of crystal tear/to wash his deceitful face."

BEST BUTCH: Marla Glen

MOST INTERESTING REVELATION: Made by disappear fear's Sonia Rutstein. The singer/songwriter told me that "a lot of female artists won't let females open [concerts] for them. I haven't been able to open for some artists that I'd like to... [Except for Indigo Girls] pretty much everybody else whose records you're familiar with won't...which sucks."

BEST CONTEMPORARY GAY-TARGETED DANCE CD: "Better Get This Now!" (Atlanta's Intersound Records)

BEST CLASSIC DANCE PROJECT: "Give Your Body Up Vols. 1-3" (Rhino Records)

BEST NEW ARTIST BEATING THE ODDS: Pussy Tourette, a very skilled musician. Although Tourette is a man in drag, her video for "Who Does She Think She Is?" has aired in prime spots on the Playboy Channel.

MOST WELCOME COMEBACK: K.T. Oslin

LESBIAN ROCKER WHO NEEDS TO LEARN NEW CHORDS: Melissa Etheridge (sorry, y'all).

BEST INSTRUMENTAL PROJECT BY LESBIAN/GAY COMPOSERS: Margie Adam's "Soon and Again...Piano Solos" and George Skaroulis' "Homeland".

BEST LOCAL ARTISTS (as determined by a very unscientific poll): Richard Bicknell, The Changelings, Kristen Hall, Michelle Malone and Angela Motter.

MOST UNLIKELY DYKE-ROCK HERO: Loudon Wainwright III. "IWIWAL (I Wish I Was A Lesbian)" was the slap-in-the-face that lesbian *and* straight women wish they could give to hetero jerks daily. The tune has a climax that has to be heard to be appreciated.

BEST LIVE ALBUM: "1200 Curfews" Indigo Girls (A very close second is The Gap Band's "Alive & Well, recorded in Atlanta's Fox Theatre.)

BEST NEW QUEER ROCK GROUP: Extra Fancy.

MOST AMBITIOUS SINGLE: Me'Shell NdegéOcello's "Leviticus: Faggot".

QUEER ALBUM OF THE YEAR: "Be More Like Me" David Clement.

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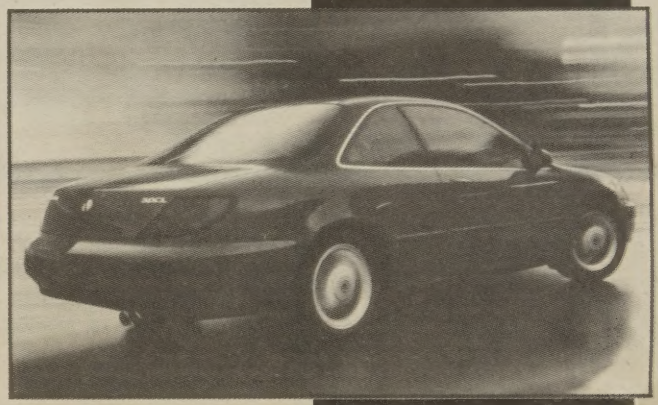

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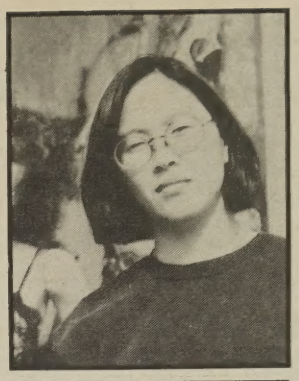
'96 IN REVIEW

ON SCREEN

FILM, VIDEO & TV REVIEWS



by KIMBERLY YUTANI

THE YEAR IN CELLULOID

The year in movies brought some scary notions of female bonding where it was either boring, manipulative and predictable ("The Spitfire Grill"), or just plain old embarrassing and poorly executed ("Foxfire"). There were also the screeching queens in conservative-bashing movies ("The Birdcage"), bratty West Hollywood boys dealing with impending death ("It's My Party"), and grotesque gays lusting after gorgeous straight guys ("Maybe... Maybe Not").

RANDY TEPPER

Gina Gershon and Jennifer Tilly brought lesbian chic to the violent film genre in '96.

However, amid the slop there were some pretty decent movies in 1996. For sophisticated narratives and stunning visuals—dare I say genius?—I cite: the Coen brothers and Pedro Almodovar. Frances McDormand is excellent as Marge, the pregnant cop of Joel Coen's **FARGO**, who cracks a case of kidnapping and murder in the dead of a Minnesota winter. A mid-life crisis, devotion to a disinterested husband, secret identities, and flamenco dancing are the elements of the Madrid-based Almodovar's emotionally rich, dramatic film, **THE FLOWER OF MY SECRET**.

Newcomer Hettie Macdonald's **BEAUTIFUL THING**, the touching story of two British working class teenage boys who fall in love with each other, is deliciously written by playwright Jonathan Harvey. Linda Henry gives a memorable performance as the sharp-tongued, harsh-but-soft-beneath-the-surface mother of one of the boys. Similarly, it's Brenda Blethyn's show as a London factory worker in her 40s who meets a black yuppie woman who turns out to be the daughter she gave up for adoption in Mike Leigh's most accessible film to date, **SECRETS & LIES**.

Wild fun and energy defines Danny Boyle's **TRAINSPOTTING**. Ewan McGregor and Jonny Lee Miller are the gorgeous, degenerate Scottish heroin addicts who pump the junk into their veins, travel down disgusting toilets, fling feces across the breakfast table, all to a memorable, pulsating soundtrack.

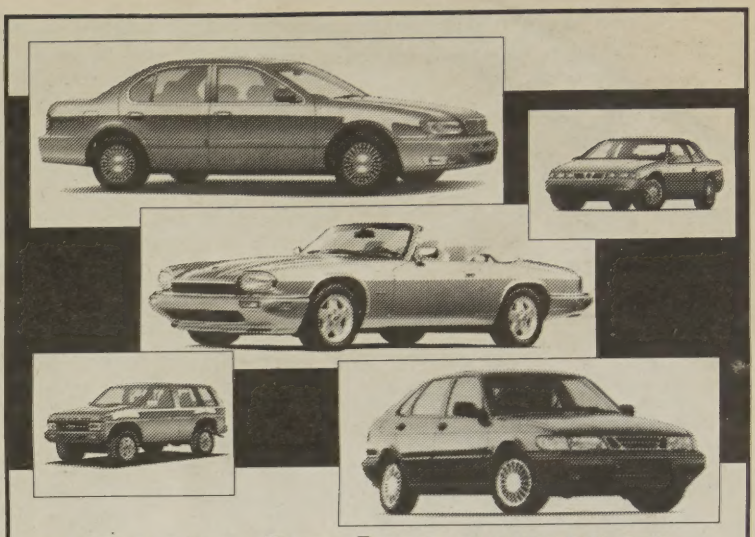
In the Wachowski brothers' **BOUND**, sexy ladies Jennifer Tilly and Gina Gershon do the nasty, waste some bad guys and lift a gigantic sum of mob money, bringing a lesbian chicness to the ultra-violent film world.

Strand Releasing unearthed '60s cult classic **WHO KILLED TEDDY BEAR?** directed by Joseph Cates. The late Juliet Prowse struts her stuff as a discotheque hostess and is the object of perverted desire to the white-cotton-briefed Sal Mineo and Elaine Strich's lesbian boss character. Meanwhile, Quentin Tarantino re-released Jack Hill's **SWITCHBLADE SISTERS**, a '70s white chicks-ploitation film. Along with F.X. Maier's knockout screenplay, the film features my favorite prop of the year—a stylish belt with dangling metal balls that doubles as a vicious weapon.

For flat-out comedies, David O. Russell's **FLIRTING WITH DISASTER** stars the wonderful trio: Ben Stiller searching for his birth parents, Patricia Arquette as his patient wife, and Tea Leoni as the leggy temptress. Mary Tyler Moore and Lily Tomlin are hilarious, as is Josh Brolin as the bisexual federal agent with a taste for armpits.

On the serious side, it's possibly Anthony Minghella's amazingly beautiful, intense and deeply sad **THE ENGLISH PATIENT** that will stay with me well into 1997.

All in all, 1996 wasn't too bad of a movie year. Happy holidays, and think happy thoughts for a new year of promising films.



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JAN LYNCH

Southeast Leatherfest 1996: Clifford Hooks, left, with Tom and Jack Stice, International Master/Slave 1995.

Gay, gay-friendly arts & artists enliven year

➢ Continued from page 24

Gay comedians Scott Kennedy, Kevin Maye and Bob Smith brought their Gay Comedy Freedom Jam Tour dubbed **"GAYLA-PALOOZA"** to the Punchline in Sandy Springs in March.

The fourth annual **ATLANTA GAY & LESBIAN ARTS FESTIVAL** in April brought together a variety of talented gay artists from the South as well as New York. Festival founder and director Jim Chappeleaux credited the work of volunteers for making "this year's festival better than ever."

In April, the **ANSLEY SQUARE ARTFEST** auctioned off artwork, celebrity photos and hunky boys to raise more than $84,000 for Project Open Hand.

On Memorial Day, hundreds of gay men and lesbians from across the country headed to Atlanta for the 18th Annual **ATLANTA'S ARMORY SPORTS CLASSIC.** Athletic events included softball, soccer, bowling, billiards, golf and tennis.

There was even more reason to celebrate the unofficial **GAY DAY AT DISNEY WORLD** in Orlando this year, thanks to the giant Disney corporation's recent decision to extend health benefits to the same-sex partners of employees.

The island paradise Key West, home to tiny Key deer and Hemingway's fabled six-toed cats, hosted the fourth annual **KEY WEST GAY ARTS FESTIVAL** in June, attracting hundreds of artists and thousands of visitors. It's sponsored by the Key West Business Guild, an organization of 400 gay-owned or -friendly businesses.

In June, the first-ever **RED RIBBON ROOMS** event was held to benefit Project Open Hand and Jerusalem House. More than 20 top Atlanta designers (including former Southern Voice design columnist Shane Meder) redecorated an Italian villa in Ansley Park for the fund-raiser.

Masters, slaves and body modification fans galore were in town for the **SOUTH EAST LEATHER FEST 1996** in June, which included the Fetish Ball, the International Master/Slave Contest and the Southeast Drummer preliminaries.

Whether you consider them the "gay Smothers Brothers" or the "gay Simon and Garfunkel," they're still funny: comic duo **ROMANOVSKY & PHILLIPS** performed at the Gay and Lesbian Visitors' Center.

In August, the eighth annual **ARTCARE** benefit auctioned off more than 250 works to raise funds for AIDS charities.

Popular actor Jeroy Hannah ("The Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me") put together an eclectic performance of song and spoken word as part of the **FOR HAVEN'S SAKE** event benefiting Haven House.

Atlanta audiences got a taste of South Beach sophistication, thanks to Kaya's Monday night supper club parties led by the vivacious **TWEEKA WEED.**

Dixie Carter, best-known for her portrayal of tart-tongued Atlanta decorator Julia Sugarbaker on TV's "Designing Women," returned to her make-believe hometown to host the first annual **FASHION AWARDS,** benefiting the Design Industries Foundation Fighting AIDS.

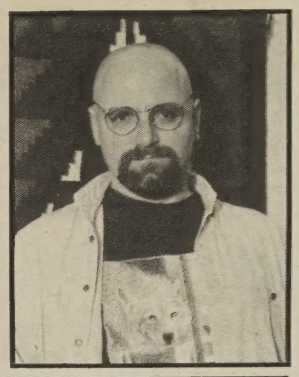
Author and veteran activist **TORIE OSBORN** presided at the festive opening of the Atlanta Lambda Center in October. In a SoVo interview, she praised Atlanta community's sophistication and energy.

Medically fragile children and those with AIDS benefited from **CHILDKIND'S HOLIDAY HOUSE,** in which 20 decorators and florists styled a 22-room Sandy Springs mansion for Christmas.

'96 IN REVIEW

OUT IN PRINT

A GAY & LESBIAN READER



by AL COTTON

THE BEST IN PRINT

Can another year have passed already? Here's my take on 1996's best 12 gay books, alpha. by author, followed by 12 more that just missed the cut.

TOO QUEER, Victoria Brownworth. A collection of passionate essays from the principled Queer Left, with feminism, class issues, AIDS anger and gardens among the intelligently considered topics.

PERFECT ENEMIES, Chris Bull & John Gallagher. A cogent analysis of the political war between the Gay Left and the Religious Right that's thoughtfully critical of both sides in pursuit of the sensible center.

A SEPARATE CREATION, Chandler Burr. A superbly readable science book that assimilates the scientific research on the inheritability of homosexuality and wrestles with its implications.

THE GOOD BOOK, Peter Gomes. This self-described "Afro-Saxon" and out gay chaplain of Harvard has written the quintessential Christian explanation for gay people—ferociously supportive.

RADICALLY GAY, Harry Hay, ed. Will Roscoe. A superb scholarly achievement in assembling the writings of "the gay & lesbian movement's living Malcolm X."

SEX DEATH ENLIGHTENMENT, Mark Matousek. From "Interview" magazine to a Ladakh monastery, a Seattle beach to Mother Meera's darshan, I was swept up by this synchronistic memoir of a gay man's spiritual awakening.

BOYS LIKE US, ed. Patrick Merla. The year's best anthology contains the new coming out stories of 29 noted gay writers, from Delaney and Gurganus to Sadownick and Wong, with "then-and-now" photos as icing on the cake.

REVIVING THE TRIBE, Eric Rofes. A painfully revealing memoir and unflinching analysis of the toll AIDS has taken its survivors, plus suggestions on how to re-invigorate a community whose holocaust won't end.

CRACKS IN THE IRON CLOSET, David Tuller. The best kind of travel book, Tuller's tales from his extensive stays in Moscow offer enlightening insight on the Queer Russian Soul. If I had to pick a '96 favorite, I'd choose this.

THE GIRLS NEXT DOOR, Lindsy Van Gelder & Pamela Robin Brandt. The lesbian answer to Frank Browning and Neil Miller, this trip around the country to take the temperature of Lesbian America was the year's funniest book.

FICTION: I fell in love with only two books this year: Stephen McCauley's fourth novel, **THE MAN OF THE HOUSE**, and Shyam Selvadurai's short story collection, **FUNNY BOY**. Set in Cambridge, Mass., and Sri Lanka, respectively, the contrast between McCauley's self-obsessed "guppie" ennui and Selvadurai's English-based, riot-torn Sinhalese culture couldn't be more vivid.

Honorable mentions **AIDS MEMOIR**—"Geography of the Heart," Fenton Johnson; "Heaven's Coast," Mark Doty; **POLITICS**—"Beyond Queer," ed. Bruce Bawer; "Coming Home to America," Torie Osborn; "One More River to Cross," Keith Boykin; **PHOTOGRAPHY**—"Common Ground," Chip Simone; **PSYCHOLOGY**—"Becoming Gay," Richard Isay; **RELIGION**—"Congregations in Conflict," Keith Hartman; **SEX & GENDER**—"Sex Between Men," Douglas Sadownick; "Transgender Warriors," Leslie Feinberg; **TRAVEL/INSIGHT**—"A Queer Geography," Frank Browning; "Boyopolis," Stan Persky.

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'96 IN REVIEW

ON STAGE

THEATER, DANCE & ART REVIEWS

AND THE WINNERS ARE

1996 was not the best year for theater in Atlanta, but there were enough good productions for ús to come up with bona fide winners in 12 categories. So on with the show.

BEST ACTOR: Scott Higgs (The Harvey Milk Show; This Passion Thing). Higgs has been around town long enough now that every frequent theater-goer should be aware of his face if not his name. This year Higgs was back in his rightful role in Harvey Milk as the mean Mr. Smith. Doesn't ring a bell? Okay, the Anita Bryant number in Harvey, Higgs was the one with the fruit on his head. Add to that his brilliant performance in Steve Murray's "This Passion Thing" and you've got a clear winner.

BEST ACTRESS: Rhoda Griffis (In Stitches). Now the play left a lot to be desired in our opinion, though we know many who thought it hung the moon. But Griffis managed to pull a mediocre-at-best script out of the toilet with her performance as Suzanne in this tear-jerking story about the NAMES Project Quilt.

BEST DIRECTION: Lawrence Keller (The Food Chain). Keller gets mucho kudos for his intelligent direction of Nicky Silver's hilarious play "The Food Chain."

BEST GAY-THEMED PLAY: The Food Chain (Horizon). Okay, it wasn't totally way gay but it was clearly the best play of the season with gay characters. Nicky Silver is a master playwright. We have to add "The Harvey Milk Show" as runner-up (we love this play) even though it saw its third production in Atlanta in 1996.

BEST MUSICAL: The Harvey Milk Show (Actor's Express). As we said it was the third time Atlanta audiences were offered Harvey but who cares? Dan Pruitt's lyrics and Patrick Hutcheson's music laid waste to any other musical in town this year. And you can buy the CD now and be able to listen to these songs in the comfort of your own home. Call Actor's Express for more info on that.

BEST NEW PLAY: The Last Night of Ballyhoo (Alliance). The world premiere play of Alfred Uhry (Driving Miss Daisy) during the Olympics is a given as best new play. Uhry's account of the lives of German Jews in Atlanta in the late '30s is touching, funny and worth every dime you spent on the tickets. A great cast and flawless direction didn't hurt either. Honorable mention to "This Passion Thing" by Steve Murray.

BEST TOURING SHOW: Grease (Fox Theater). Grease is still the word. Gay choreographer Jeff Calhoun infused this '90s version with plenty of gay sensibility. Honorable mention in this category is "Beauty & The Beast."

BEST DRAMA: Oleanna (Actor's Express). David Mamet's piece on power, control and manipulation is a clear winner here. Mamet's tightly written edge-of-your-seat drama challenges all your beliefs, especially those of which you have always felt the clearest.

BEST COMEDY: The Food Chain (Horizon). Nicky Silver is being compared to Tony Kushner in some circles, and while we think this is a might far-fetched, Silver still deserves a hand for "The Food Chain" a wickedly funny comedy about love and other hungers. Kudos to Horizon for a job very well done.

Betty Hart and Simone Jubyna in "Venus and Adonis."

BEST PERFORMANCE PIECE: Venus & Adonis (Atlanta Shakespeare Tavern). This gender-bending (two women in the title roles) adaptation of Shakespeare's poetry was beautifully done from casting to music to direction.

BEST DANCE PERFORMANCE: Time Piece (Ferst Theater at Ga. Tech). The marriage of ballet to high-tech as conceived by choreographer David Parsons and realized by the company and a group of technical geniuses at Georgia Tech. The dance aims to tell the entire evolution of mankind from its chaotic beginnings to information overload of the 21st century. It did.

EATING OUT

Numerous new restaurants opened their doors throughout Atlanta in 1996 offering a diversity of dining fare from pizza to Thai in atmospheres just as diverse: from cafes to swank supper clubs.

HARVEST (853 N. Highland Ave., 404-876-8244), housed in an impressive stone and shingle bungalow, opened in the former home of a shadowy hot tub emporium wedged between the new Revco and one of the few parking lots in the city anchored by a cash machine. The rehabilitated restaurant is simple and elegant. The menus reflect regional foods of the current season. In summer that means squash, eggplant, potatoes, dark greens and lentils are everywhere. Winter fare includes a variety of selections such as one offering three healthy-sized slabs of pork tenderloin, roasted under a brown sugar glaze and served in a lake of sweet apple brandy jus with sides of apple walnut chutney and roasted red potatoes. Seasonal seafood is also offered, such as Chilean sea bass and salmon.

Sandwiched between the Wish Fulfilling Tree bookstore and Return to Eden health food market, **BAI TONG** (2329-C Cheshire Bridge Rd., (404) 728-9040) occupies a space familiar to more than a few area residents in its previous incarnations as a bathhouse and drag bar. The large and simply decorated room now looks "very much like a luxe dining room in Bangkok" according to some.

The folks who gave us Ormewood Park's enjoyable **ZAC'S** (now at 308 W. Ponce deLeon Ave., 404-373-9460) opened at a new location last year. Much of Zac's deserved reputation for simple, hearty food comes from its brunch menu. The multi-grain pancakes packed with blueberries, then garnished with strawberries and served with a trio of perfectly cooked bacon slices are pretty close to heaven on a griddle.

LES HALLES (229 Peachtree Center Ave., 404-584-9900) is a "French American Steak house" that opened in advance of the Olympics and seemed at first glance to be yet another variation on the Planet Hollywood/Hard Rock Cafe concept.

The latest attempt to breathe life into the strange little building that was originally Proof of the Pudding and most recently the Park Cafe is the **BIG RED TOMATO** (980 Piedmont Ave. at 10th St., 404-870-9885). One wonders if the owners know that once, in a time before Blake's, that Blake's was Tomatoes, an Italian restaurant chockablock with atmosphere, mediocre food and a substantial gay clientele.

1996 also witnessed the appearance of the 81st store in the ever-expanding pizza and pasta empire known as **BERTUCCI'S** (3316 Piedmont Rd., 404-816-6566) just south of the venerable Disco Kroger and just north of a scary new furniture store concept. When compared to recent Italian chain efforts like Mozzarella's and Tomato Rumba's, a meal at Bertucci's might seem as fresh and exciting as tomato and basil salad in a tiny Tuscan trattoria.

➢Continued on Page 35

RESTAURANT LIST

Agnes and Muriel's—Home-style American food in a renovated house near Ansley. Serving lunch & dinner daily. 1514 Monroe Dr. 404/885-1000

Bai Tong—Voted best new Thai restaurant by Atlanta Magazine. Serving the finest authentic Thai cuisine available. 2329-C Cheshire Br. Rd. (Next to Tara Theatre) 404/728-8040

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Broadway Cafe—Gourmet vegetarian fare. Open Sat. evenings for private functions. 2168 Briarcliff Rd. 404/329-0888

Camille's—Closest Atlanta has to Little Italy. Hearty platters of pastas, seafood (fried calamari our specialty), veal and chicken in rich red sauces. 1186 North Highland Ave. 404/872-7203

Caramba Café—Traditional Mexican cuisine made with lowfat ingredients. Mia's margaritas a must! 1409-D N. Highland. 404/874-1343

Chin Chin & Chin Chin II—Authentic and affordable Chinese food featuring extensive vegetarian menu. Delivery Available. 699 Ponce de Leon Ave. 404/881-1511

Coco-Loco—Serving the best Cuban/Caribbean food in Atlanta for the past 5 years, in a great tropical atmosphere. 2525 Piedmont Road, Buckhead Crossing. 404/364-0212

The Dessert Place—Offering the finest quality desserts with the freshest ingredients served in an engaging atmosphere. Dine in:1000 Virginia Ave. 404/892-8921. Special occasions: 279 E. Paces Ferry Rd. 404/233-2331

Dusty's—Winner of Taste of Atlanta '91–'92. N. Carolina-style pork, brunswick stew, chicken, beef and ribs. Cater any occasion. 1815 Briarcliff Rd. 404/320-6264

Eidelweiss Restaurant—Continental and German specialties, such as fennel-crusted swordfish, filet mignon, venison and Wiener Schnitzel, by multi-award-winning Chef Herbert Steiner. 6075 Roswell Rd. 404/303-8700

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➢Continued on Page 34

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RESTAURANT LIST

Continued from page 33

Gringo's Cantina—Traditional Mexican cuisine handmade from scratch daily. The only Tequila menu in Atlanta. Full top-shelf bar. Secluded in Candler Park. Plenty of well-lit, on-site free parking. 1238 DeKalb Ave. 404/607-1175

Magnolia Tea Room—Delectable entrees & salads in a true southern setting. Sunday Brunch. 5459 E. Mountain Street, Stone Mtn. 770/498-6304

Mumbo Jumbo—A lush exotic eatery featuring food by Chef Guenter Seeger and Head Chef Dean Max. A club level Mezzanine rounds out this establishment. 89 Park Place 404/523-0330

Palisades Restaurant—Intimate dining in a European atmosphere. The finest meats, seafood, pastas & desserts make this a satisfying & romantic interlude. 1829 Peachtree Rd. N.E. Buckhead. 404/350-6755

Prince George Inn—An Atlanta tradition returns to Midtown. Steaks, seafood, pasta, and featuring prime rib. Great Sunday brunch. 114 6th St. 404/724-4669

San Gennaro—The home of award winning fried calamari & hearty Italian cooking. Separate banquet facilities available. 2196 Cheshire Bridge Rd. 404/636-9447

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St. Agnes Tea Garden—This European tea garden serves teas and grazing fare, including breakfast. You'll see homage to Impressionists and taxidermists, marble floors and a peacock strutting by a classic Caddy. 222 E. Howard Ave., Decatur 404/370-1995

Siam Palace—Authentic Thai cuisine served in a charming atmosphere. Daily lunch & dinner and specials. 3330 Piedmont Rd., Suite 3, Atlanta 30305 404/812-9110

Thai Chili—Robert S. Khankiew presents Thai Chilli, offering the finest in Thai cuisine. 2169 Briarcliff Rd. Briarvista Shopping Center. 404/315-6750

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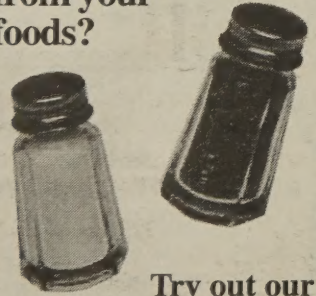

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EATING OUT

– Continued from page 33

Give owners of **AMERIGO'S**, an Italian restaurant that opened in Buckhead (2964 Peachtree Rd. 404-237-2964), credit for hiring a talented interior designer who made individual tables feel private, almost intimate, despite a single large dining room surrounded by glass. Formerly Morrison's Cafeteria, the new look is a hybrid of Pricci and Veni Vidi Vici, an effective combination of wavy glass accents set amid much wood and iron work, lighted mostly by low-voltage spots and anchored by a large, shiny stainless steel kitchen. Appetizers include fried cheese fritters served with marinara and honey-mustard sauce and fried artichoke hearts with horseradish cream sauce. The wine list is mostly American and there's key lime pie on the dessert card.

Virginia-Highlands' **CAFE PLANETARIAN** (1043 Greenwood Ave., 404-876-7337) opened directly across the street from Terra Cotta. The rehab of this building—a '20s duplex where the owners once lived—is nothing short of fabulous. The menu is an eclectic assortment of dishes from around the world, including appetizers like "pomodoro tiziana," literally fried red tomatoes, and "humus khayyam," which combines three different beans (exactly which three is not revealed) with roasted pecans, mint, tahini and goat cheese.

THE BLUE LANTERN (760 Ponce de Leon Ave. 404-892-3110) opened in the space most recently home to Tortillas' take out shop. Blue Lantern is nothing like its antecedent of the same name, Ray-Lee's Blue Lantern Lounge, which occupied a space just down Ponce. The new Blue Lantern, open Wed.- Sun. from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. offers an assortment of vaguely Mediterranean cuisine: falafel, hummus, dolma and assorted sandwiches on Cajun focaccia—muffaleta rounds.

CAMELI'S GOURMET PIZZA JOINT (699 Ponce deLeon Ave. 404-249-9020) opened in the space that was home to the altogether idiosyncratic African Brown Bag. The number of pie ordering options—36 toppings, five crusts and four sauces—is encouraging and suggests an almost infinite number of permutations that might snare you into coming back time and again until you found just the right balance.

The **SWEET POTATO RESTAURANT** (2140 Peachtree Rd. 404-352-3770) opened in the venue that was Amuse. Reasonably priced, the concept looks like tried-and-true Southern meat-and-three, but there is a kinky twist or two. Like huge sweet potato chips served with a duo of dipping sauces: as good a red salsa as you'll find and a credible blue cheese and mayo combo straight from the world of chicken wings. OK, nothing on the menu actually says "Southern," but, in addition to the restaurant's name and meat-and-three menu style, there are bread baskets filled with cornbread and dinner rolls.

The owners of Buckhead's swank Tongue & Groove fluffed their downtown space that most recently housed Velvet and re-opened as a restaurant that looks like it could be straight out of a Barcelona travel brochure: **MUMBO JUMBO** (89 Park Place, 404-523-0330).

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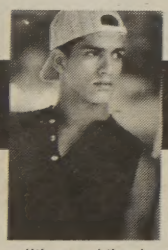

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DISH

THERE'S A FINE LINE BETWEEN TELLING THE TRUTH AND TALKING TRASH

'96 A DISHY YEAR

CLINTON MAINTAINS ELECTION: Sure, we voted for President Bill, but we still appreciated David Brinkley's dryly delivered smack at Clinton's victory speech: "We can all look forward with great pleasure to four years of wonder, inspiring speeches full of wit, poetry, music, love and affection—plus more goddamned nonsense," said the somewhat reptilian journalist. Calling the speech one of the worst things he'd ever heard, Brinkley said of the chief executive, "He's a bore and always will be a bore." But the real fun came days later, when the wickedly hateful Rep. Bob Dornan was publicly force-fed the reality that he had in fact been defeated by Hispanic (!) female (!!) Democrat (!!!) Loretta Sanchez. "B-1" Bob threw what Dish's mama would call "a hissy fit," shrieking on TV at fellow Republican retired Marine Col. William Dougherty: "You are a poor excuse for a Marine. You are a pathetic, old, senile man. You are a slimy coward. Go register in another party."

ELLEN, HONEY, WAKE US UP WHEN YOU DECIDE: The big L.A. hype machine has been pumping out tepid grease about the title character of "Ellen" for so long that Dish feels we were just a wee Saucer when the whole thing got started. It was reported in New York media that series star Ellen DeGeneres had been spotted in a New York bar sucking face with a "short-haired fan," but not that the fan was female. Regarding fictional Ellen's possible outing, the real Ellen's manager told TV Guide that "if you look hard at the whole series, there are a lot of elements over the years that could be laying the groundwork for that story line." No, really? Ellen went through "I'm really left-handed" and "I'm really Lebanese." What started out as a kind of psychological striptease is now reminding us of the type of tease that Dish really doesn't care for. "Ellen" is looking more and more behind the curve on this, since Dish can easily name at least five out characters on prime-time TV. Join us if you will, Ellen dear, but don't expect us to beg.

Ellen DeGeneres: still waiting....

TALES FROM THE CLOSET: The release of the film version of Vitto Russo's "The Celluloid Closet" was cause for celebration, but its screenwriter, Armistead Maupin, was publicly miffed that Lily Tomlin, its narrator, remained coy about her own sexuality. He told writer Michael Musto, "I'm angry at Lily because she led several of us to believe she'd use this film as a vehicle for coming out. Instead, I have to endure the cruel irony of a film called 'The Celluloid Closet' narrated by a closeted person! Her silence about her own sexuality undermines all of her good work, and it reinforces the notion that homosexuality is something to be tolerated, but never discussed." And that, as Edith Ann might say, is the truth.

IS THAT RECIPE IN THE INDEX? Rocketed to stardom by her role in John Berendt's best-selling "Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil," The Lady Chablis came out with a combination autobiography and cookbook, "Hiding My Candy." Dish's fave story about the Lady involves one wag who asked her if she ate pussy. "Girl," she quipped, "I don't even know how to cook it."

AS MARKETABLE AS I WANNA BE: Dish has long enjoyed the watching tattooed, dyed-headed Dennis Rodman of the Chicago Bulls push the envelope on sexuality issues and challenge his macho fans. "I have lots of gay friends, and they kiss me and stuff—you know, friendly kisses," he told Inside Sports magazine. He also posed most provocatively on the cover of his book "Bad As I Wanna Be." Then, just in time for the holidays, the Rod-man shifted gears and seemed to renounce his bad-boy image in a series of ads for Kodak.

DISH

THERE'S A FINE LINE BETWEEN TELLING THE TRUTH AND TALKING TRASH

RUPAUL INC.: 1996 was a good year for RuPaul, certainly the biggest star ever launched from Atlanta's gay scene. Ru got his own daily morning show on New York's No. 1 radio station; he was seen by millions in "A Very Brady Sequel" (and by millions more in its TV commercial); The New York Times declared him "drag queen of all media;" he released a new CD, "Foxy Lady," on Rhino Records; and he landed his own late-night chat show on VH-1. On his show, the self-made supermodel welcomed a parade of hip guests, including Dennis Rodman, John Waters, Whoopi Goldberg, Eartha Kitt and Dionne Warwick. But nothing compared to the night Cher was in the house, when the two tried to out-Cher each other performing "The Shoop-Shoop Song." Dish couldn't help but shed a tear of happiness to see our Ru-Ru, who worked so hard for so many years in Atlanta, queening away with his idol on TV and obviously having a blast.

RuPaul: Atlanta's dazzling gift to the world.

BUT WHAT IF THEY GET INTO A BITCH-FIGHT? It's still not too late to give your nephew or niece a copy of "Drag Dolls: Eight Cut-Out Drag Queens and Their Fabulous Over-the-Top Ensembles" (Chronicle Books; $12.95). Figures in the book include Joey Arias, Mistress Formika and Wigstock founder and former Atlantan The "Lady" Bunny. Now, which doll does a totally obscene routine, periodically balls everyone out and regularly comes back to the South to pick up jokes she can recycle and sell to New York audiences? Just kidding, Bunny—you know Dish loves you!

DISH TOLD YOU SO: Right before the gayest holiday of the year (Halloween, silly), Dish told you to be on the lookout for revelers working this year's version of the odd couple: Drew Carey and his nemesis MiMi—you know, the one who learned everything she knows about make-up from DeAundra Peek. Well, if you ventured out at all, you likely noticed that our prediction was correct. We're just bringing it up now to gloat.

TWO BRIDES ON A WEDDING CAKE: An estimated gazillion viewers tuned in to the "lesbian wedding" episode of NBC's "Friends," sending it to No.1 in the weekly Nielsen ratings. Candace Gingrich, lesbian half-sister to the recently chastised Speaker of the House, played a minister who presided over the sapphic nuptials. Newtie said he was happy about Candace's success despite their differences and added, "I have another sister, by the way, who belongs to the Christian Coalition, who has not been approached about doing a situation comedy... My sister Susan would probably be equally willing for you to call her." Hmm, maybe "Friends" could do a nightmare episode in which their coffee hangout is sold to fundamentalists who turn it into a storefront mission, and the other Gingrich could play an evangelist? No, honey, no: we watch the tube for escapism, and that sounds too much like real life.

DON'T CRY FOR ME, DARLING READERS: Years ago, ladies who were "expecting" spent lots of time resting and avoiding high-profile events. Not the pregnant Madonna, who spent months in Argentina during the filming of "Evita," then published a diary of her endless suffering in "Vanity Fair" concurrent with delivering her baby daughter. She seems to have felt just awful and had lots of odd dreams: "Dreamt last night that there was going to be a big earthquake and it was going to destroy the world. I ran around trying to pack my suitcase but stopped when I realized I really wouldn't need to pack." (Well, *duh!*) "Dreamt last night that Sharon Stone invited me to her house because she wanted to know me better." (Hmmm.) "I dreamed I was Evita and I was watching the finished version of the movie... I realized for the first time that I was dead and I began to cry..." "My wig feels like a vise grip on my head." Dish just knows that video parody-maker *sans pareil* Julie Brown is already turning this into a howler of a script.

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Announcements

Join the Wilde Writers, a beginning gay/lesbian writers' group, and court your muse. Call Mary (404)377-9366 or Miriam (404)627-7387.

Frottage Men - Correspondance club for guys into safer sex. Write: Club, 1544 Piedmont Avenue, Box 109, Atlanta, GA 30324.

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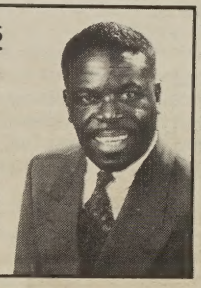

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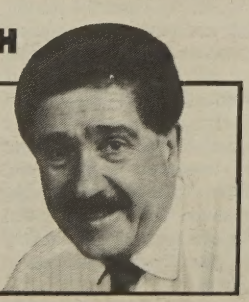

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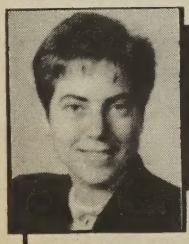

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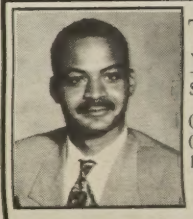

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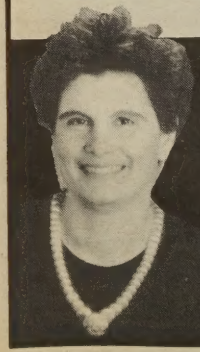

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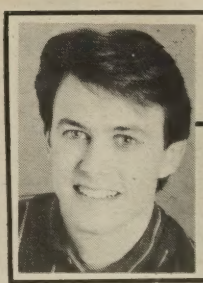

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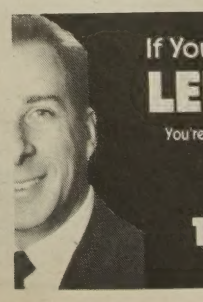

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Men

VERY EARTHY
GWM, 31, 5'7", 160 lbs. Attractive normal guy seeking same down-to-earth, masculine men. horticulturist by trade. Enjoys gardening and cultural events. No smokers/drugs. #5320

KINK PIX EXCHANGE
Good looking, 30, hairy, fit. into kink (slings) with hard men. Send me your pix and I'll send mine with friends. Box 995, Southern Voice, 1095 Zonolite Road, Atlanta GA. 30306.

COMPLETE PACKAGE
Masculine, fit , adventurous, and fun loving GWM, 49, seeks together, sports minded, outdoor type who wants a great relationship. #5453

PROFESSIONAL GWM
PGWM also means positive (+), good-looking, witty and masculine. I'm 30, 5'10", 150 lbs. bl/bl, clean-cut, healthy and athletic. Seeks similar GWM. #5452

MUSCLE BOY
WM, 26, 250, total bottom. seeking LT houseboy position with generous, affluent top guy who needs constant TLC. #5456

UNCUT FEVER!!
GWM, 30, attractive, looking for that little something extra in a big way! Into groups and more. #5457

A DREAM COME TRUE
Handsome, SWM, 5'4", 135 lbs., Br/Bl seeks companionship, relationship with WM or Asian Male under 27. My interests are outdoors, music, movies, and food. #5446

NORTH ATLANTA BI WM
26, 6', 175 lbs., high-tech professional, hobbies include writing, hiking, jogging, chess and Scrabble. Seeking young, romantic, affectionate, non-smoking, HIV-white or Asian for friendship, possible more. Letter, complete description (or photo) to: Boxholder, PO Box 29354, Atlanta, GA 30359

GO FOR IT IN 97 WOW!
GWM, 51, HIV+, bottom, looking for other mature GWM who want to make out like crazy. Oh come on! #5445

HIV AMORE
Very handsome all American clean cut 35, 5'9", 162 lbs., large endowment... sought after, but wish to romance Latin HIV+, Mexican uncut. #5443

LOVER MAN
WM, 43, Blonde/Blue, 5'11", 190 lbs., HIV+, top, looking to share enjoyment of art, spirituality, love making, aerobics, movies, gardening, dining. #5442

W. CENTRAL GEORGIA
Unique GWM, 35, brn/bl, sense of humor, dedicated, honest, loving, witty, many interests ISO unique guy. #5440

QUALITY MALE
GWM, 35, 6"2", 170lbs., brown hair and eyes. Non-smoker, not into the bars, seeks GWM 40 or under. #5438

GET A PEN
Vglkg, handsome WM, masculine, crew cut, 5'7", 162lbs. Brown/Green, built, likes movies, theatre, etc. Seeking nice butt, g/looking masculine bottom HIV+ LTR. #5435

RELATIONSHIP ORIENTED
GWM, 26, 5'10", brown/green, AHR, non-smoker, seeks blue collar, well endowed, smoker, who is either married or single for lasting relationship. Prefer hairy, beefy guys. #5434

LOOKING FOR YOU ONLY
GWM, 5'7", 165lbs.,hot, muscular, HIV-, leather botttom seeks taller, in shape, HIV-, hung leather top for one on one. #5433

PASSIONATE
GWM, 40, looking for good looking, young Hisp/Asian/White males 18-35. PO Box 17562, Atlanta, Ga. 30316.

VERSATILE LEATHER GUY
GWM, 29, 5'11", 175lbs., HIV-, muscular, moderately hairy seeks similar. Into leather men and kinky fun, likes to get wild and crazy and see what happens. Send info. SoVo box 994, 1095 Zonolite Rd, Atlanta, GA. 30306. #

NAT. AMER. SEEKS MATE
Gay bottom, Native American male, 6'3", 200lbs., short brown hair, hazel eyes, muscular build. into body building, bike riding, music, the outdoors. seeking other top black males who are serious, honest for possible relationship.

GBM SEEKS GWM
Good looking, with integrity, 28-37, masculine, for possible dating situation. I'm 6", 190 lbs., 32, great shape, for real. #5432

OLDER GWM ISO BOTTOM
GWM, 55, 5'8", 155 lbs., disabled- but in good shape ISO relationship with GWM, thin to average build bottom. #5431

LTR
GWPM, 25, 5'11", 160, attractive HIV-, into working out, movies, conversation, seeks attractive fit, romantic over 25 for monogamous loving relationship. #5430

HARD FF FRENZY
GWM, 29, 6', 175 Lbs., muscular, very attractive, hairy, HIV-, seeking similar men or groups into serious versatile FF and fantasy. I like to party messed up. #5427

HANDSOME BODYBUILDER
6', 205 lbs., 34, Brn/Bl, smooth, HIV-, endowed, masculine, professional, seeks fit HIV-, masculine, endowed, mostly top only. Leave message, no outgoing. #5426

GWM, 32, 160 lbs, well endowed, swimmers build, like electronics, wearing sexy lingerie, going out, evenings, movies, staying at home, good cooking. HIV+, seeking same. #5425

GWM, 50, desires WM. Healthy, hairy and handsome, for lasting relationship. If interested, please write- PO Box 124, Grayson, GA. 30221

HELIUM HEELS???
If you like your legs in the air call.these two cleancut tops 28 and 41 who're looking for bottom playmates for safe fun. #5403

FRIENDS & MUCH MORE
SWM, 30, Attractive. Seeking honest, attractive WM under 35 for conversation, friendship, affection, great sex. E-mail to: anon1f97@nyx.nyx.net

NEED FF TRAINER
GWM, 35, 6', masculine, looking for experineced FF top to train novice ff bottom. Other kinky scenes welcomed. #5404

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southern VOICE

Classified Order Form (404) 876-1819

NEW CLASSIFIEDS DEADLINE: THURSDAY at NOON

TO PLACE AN AD:
In PERSON: Bring completed order form with payment to Southern Voice offices (M-F, 9-5pm) 1095 Zonolite Rd., Atlanta. By MAIL: Mail completed order form with payment to Southern Voice Classifieds, 1095 Zonolite Rd., Atlanta, GA 30306. By PHONE: Call in with completed order form to (404) 876-1819. By FAX: Fax completed order form and credit card information to Classifieds (404) 876-2709. AD POLICY: Southern Voice reserves the right to edit, reclassify or reject ads not meeting Ryan Publications' standards. No refunds for early cancellation. MISPRINTS: Southern Voice is not responsible for misprints appearing after first week. Check ads promptly.

ADS MUST BE SUBMITTED by Thursday, 12 noon to appear in the following week's issue.

1 PICK YOUR CATEGORY

FREE: Call for guidelines
__ HIV Services & Education
__ Volunteers

INDIVIDUAL RATE $5:
__ Announcements
__ Auditions
__ Employment-Seeking
__ Pets-Free or Lost & Found
__ Roommates

BUSINESS RATE $15:
__ Autos
__ Business
__ Employment-Full Time
__ Employment-Part Time
__ Finance
__ Health
__ Legal
__ Massage Therapy
__ Merchandise
__ Pets-For Sale, Training
__ Publications
__ Real Estate-For Rent
__ Real Estate-For Sale
__ Travel

Other categories available.

2 WRITE YOUR AD
PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Category_____ # of Issues_____

Giant Headline ($5/week)–not to exceed 14 characters and spaces

TEXT: _____

3 TOTAL YOUR COST

VISA MasterCard

INDIVIDUAL RATE ADS
Up to 20 words for $5.00 per week. Additional words at 50¢ each per week.

Up to 20 words $5.00
Additional words____ x 50¢ = _____
Giant headline $5 _____ (per week)
SUBTOTAL _____ x ____ # issues
TOTAL = _____

BUSINESS RATE ADS
Up to 20 words for $15.00 per week. Additional words at $1.00 each per week.

Up to 20 words $15.00
Additional words____ x $1.00 = _____
Giant headline $5 _____ (per week)
SUBTOTAL _____ x ____ # issues
TOTAL = _____

Name _____
Address _____
City/State_____ Zip_____
Phone _____
Check Enclosed_____ Charge my MC/Visa _____
#_____ exp. _____

LOVES TO LAUGH
Divorced, GWM, 41, professional. Tall, trim, fit, passionate, focused, fun. Interests vary from black tie to blue jeans. No smoking/drugs. #5405

IS YOURS TOO BIG?
Tired of hearing, "No, its too big," or "Stop. It hurts"? 6'3" Italian ex-model won't complain! Blacks & Latinos welcome. #4778

SHOWOFF? CAN I SEE?
Uninhibited GWM/couples sought by attractive 30's GWM voyeur. Demonstrate naked techniques while I observe from sidelines. Participation negotiable. #5409

HOLIDAY HUMP
Two tops, 28 & 41, looking for hot bottom guys to come over and sit on Santa's lap (actually, bend over the bed). #5412

SPECIAL FRIENDSHIP+
We share love, caring, affection, cuddling, laughter, honesty, spirituality, positive attitude. GWM, HIV-, NS/Drugs, 40-50. All calls returned. #5414

ATLANTAN & NEW YORKER
Over 40 only, please. GWM, 36, seeks buddy for fun, movies, sharing. I'm 5'7"/120, HIV+, healthy. Need a friend? #5387

HANDSOME HUSKY TOP
WM, 31, 6'1", 220lbs. Blonde/Blue, masculine seeks small/medium built bottom buddy for fun/friendship. Any race. #5389

LOOKING FOR LOVE
GWM, 32, brown hair, hazel eyes, goatee, 6', 240lbs, HIV-. ISO GWM, 25-39, for monogamous LTR. Serious only. South side a plus. #5391

BLUE COLLAR DADDY
HIV+, 40, stocky, hairy financially secure top seeks smooth muscular bottom boy for LTR. P.O. Box 708, Conyers, Ga. 30207. #5392

BODY BUILDER
Body builder, GWM, mid-30s, 6', 220lbs, seeks large playmate with similar description for safe fun. No attachments. Discreet, honest replies only. #5393

INEXPERIENCED SHY WM
WM, 33, boyish, seeks GWM over 40 for nurturing LTR. Must be affluent, educated, secure and honest for mutual spoiling. #5398

SQUEAKING BEDSPRINGS
Music to ears of 30's WM, 6', 185lbs. ISO dominant, raunchy-talking, virile hard-top for semi-rough sweaty in/out. Conservative by day A+. #5399

OLA R U CATHOLIC?
Hispanic, Phillipino or Ameriasian? Attractive, in good shape and romantic? Distinctive, well-built, HIV+ black gentleman seeks LTR. #5400

GET IT WHILE YOU CAN
Living with AIDS. Looking and feeling great! Miracle cocktail working. Retired, GWM, 37, 5'7", 150lbs., handsome, honest, clean, witty, Scorpio. Seeks similar GWM, for dating, laughter, day-trips, romance, making love. Moderate drink, smoke, OK. You should be attractive, have stable; health, home, finances, mental status. Hurry, while our drugs are still working! #5401

20TH CENTURY LIVING
is harsh on the male foot. So guys, this is your ticket to relaxation. #5242

BOTTOM WANTED
Two cleancut midtown guys, 28 & 41, looking for bottom playmates for safe fun. Tel/pix to: PO Box 13162, Atlanta, GA 30324

Women

HONEST, SINCERE
WF, 28, likes art, movies, sports, going out as much as staying in. ISO WF 24-33 for friendship, possibly more. #5454

FEM SEEKS ANDROGYNOUS
SWF, 26, 5'5", fit, attractive, very sweet and loving seeks androgynous or soft butch woman to become really good friends with no drugs/non smoker. #5451

LAKE+LOVE+LAUGHTER
50, $secure beauty. Loves laughter, travel and adventure. At home in the woods or in Paris. Healthy mind, body, ISO same. #5447

GF, young 39, ISO good friends. Age, race, unimportant. I love: sports, music, hanging out. I hate: mind games, racism, superficial people. Need good conversation and lots of laughs? Call me - all my friends are "married" and bored! #5444

WOMAN TO WOMAN
Goodhearted SGWF, 38, warm, honest, non-smoking, social drinker seeking SGWF around 50 who enjoys, travel, beaches, mountains and quiet evenings for friendship/relationship. #5439

STUD'S PET B/F
Gorgeous, petite, feminine, size 6, wants to cater to fine Taurus or Pisces only studs over 30. Any other sign, don't waste your dime. #5436

LOVING SGBF
SGBF, 24, seeks single GF, 20-30, for friendship and possible relationship, your move, if interested. #5429

INTOWN INCANDESCENCE
GWF, 42, physically attractive and fit with finely tuned intellect and wit seeks that special someone with similar flair. #5428

WANTED: SPECIAL PERSON
GWF, petite, 45, seeking someone to spoil & to share good times with. You: 35-48, likes romantic dinners, movies, dancing, walks on the beach, traveling & cuddling up to a nice warm fireplace on a cold day. Must be honest, sincere. Let's get together and have fun. #5406

MORE ON PAGE 42

TO ANSWER AN AD
If the ad has a # sign and a four digit number, call

1-900-370-4099

and follow the recorded instructions.

$1.99 per minute. Must be 18 or over.
Touch tone phones only.
Southern Voice, 1095 Zonolite Road, Atlanta, GA 30306

IF YOUR PHONE HAS A 900 BLOCK, or if you don't want calls to appear on your phone bill, call 876-1819 and ask for details about our "Non 900 #" system.

IF AN AD HAS A P.O. BOX or a SoVo box, you may write directly to that address.

SOVO'S MOST POPULAR PERSONAL OF THE WEEK!

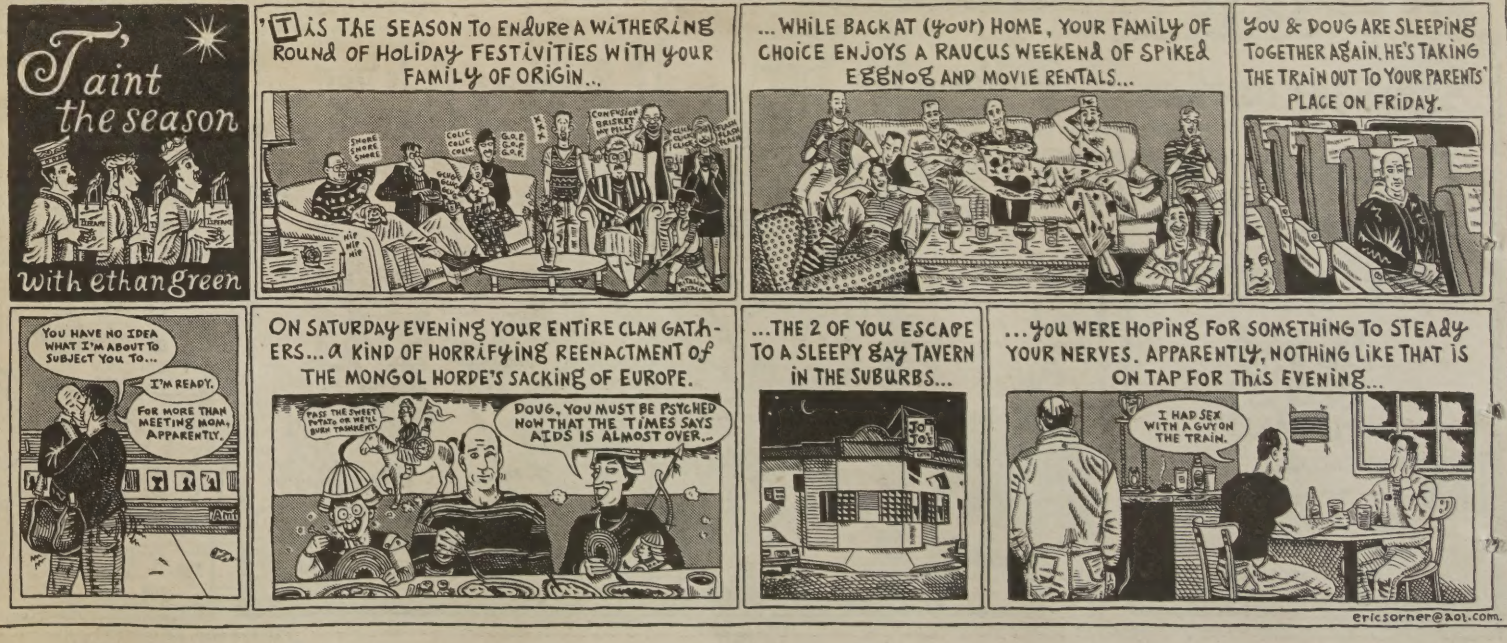
Each week, we will highlight our most popular personals ad. The winner is judged on the number of responses the ad receives in a given week and the creative quality of the copy in the ad. Prizes will be announced weekly.

15 MINUTES OF NON-900 ACCESS TIME. VALUED AT $29.85

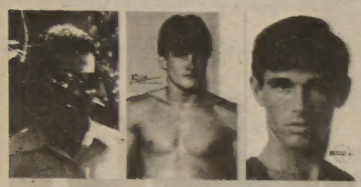
VERY EARTHY

GWM, 31, 57", 160lbs. Attractive normal guy seeking same down-to-earth, masculine men. Horticulturist by trade. Enjoys gardening and cultural events. No smokers/drugs. #5320

NEXT WEEK'S PRIZE: 15 minutes of Non-900 access time. Valued at $29.85


The Mostly Unfabulous Social Life of Ethan Green
BY ERIC ORNER
Taint the season
with ethan green
'TIS THE SEASON TO ENDURE A WITHERING ROUND OF HOLIDAY FESTIVITIES WITH YOUR FAMILY OF ORIGIN...
...WHILE BACK AT (your) HOME, YOUR FAMILY OF CHOICE ENJOYS A RAUCUS WEEKEND OF SPIKED EGGNOG AND MOVIE RENTALS...
YOU & DOUG ARE SLEEPING TOGETHER AGAIN. HE'S TAKING THE TRAIN OUT TO YOUR PARENTS' PLACE ON FRIDAY.
YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT I'M ABOUT TO SUBJECT YOU TO...
I'M READY.
FOR MORE THAN MEETING MOM, APPARENTLY.
ON SATURDAY EVENING YOUR ENTIRE CLAN GATHERS... A KIND OF HORRIFYING REENACTMENT OF THE MONGOL HORDE'S SACKING OF EUROPE.
PASS THE SWEET POTATO OR WE'LL BURN THANKSGIVING!
DOUG, YOU MUST BE PSYCHED NOW THAT THE TIMES SAYS AIDS IS ALMOST OVER...
...THE 2 OF YOU ESCAPE TO A SLEEPY GAY TAVERN IN THE SUBURBS...
JO JO'S
...YOU WERE HOPING FOR SOMETHING TO STEADY YOUR NERVES. APPARENTLY, NOTHING LIKE THAT IS ON TAP FOR THIS EVENING...
I HAD SEX WITH A GUY ON THE TRAIN.
ericsorner@aol.com.

Bijou Films *as low as* $11.95!



Big Hairy Men 1 *Item V3255*

California Twinkies *Item V3258*

Dynamite Dicks and Bubble Buns *Item V3247*

It's Raining Dicks *Item V3246*

Latinos *Item V3257*

Toby Ross Early Years *Item V3256*

$14.95 each!

3 or more only $11.95 each!

Only From Bijou Video

To order by mail send check, money order, or your Visa, MC, or AmEx number (with expiration date), plus a signed statement that you are over 21, to: BIJOU VIDEO, 1363 North Wells, Chicago, IL 60610. SHIPPING: Add $5 for the first tape, $1 for each additional. No U.S. Mail shipments or shipments to P.O. Boxes. (Allow approximately three days for delivery of first-time orders.) We do not ship to MS, NC, NE, PR, TV, UT, or VI. Please include both daytime and nighttime phone numbers when placing an order.

Or call 1-800-937-7116 FAX 312-337-1500

PERSONALS

Continued from page 41

1951 ORIGINAL EDITION
Intelligent humor, well-turned phrases. Attractive cover, slightly worn, seeks discriminating, fire-side reader. Tender heart, sharp of mind. #5424

COUNTRY GIRL AT HEART
Soft-hearted, cute GWF, petite, 37, loves horses and competing, the outdoors and dancing. ISO of soft-butch with similar interests for friendship/possible relationship. #5407

TIS TRULY THE SEASON
GBF, 29, shy, cute big girl with sense of humor. ISO GBF 25-35, for lasting, loving relationship, no butch. #5408

WHOLE HEARTED
GWF 44, supportive and honest. Enjoys conversation and closeness, ISO GWF, 40-50, who can do the same sincerely. #5410

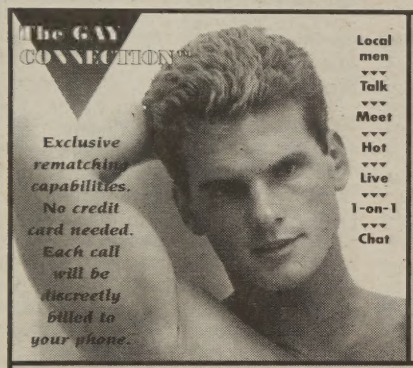
NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION
GWF, 50 enjoys quiet evenings at home. Looking for that special woman, age 45-55 to spend the holidays and a lifetime together. No smoking or drugs. #5413

WOMAN TO WOMAN
Playing sports, rivers, mountains, dancing, massage, nutrition, yoga, spirituality, tantra. Share all or any part with me. #5415

PLAYMATE
ISO friend(s) to throw frisbee, baseball, football, shoot hoops after work or on weekends. Also dance. #5416

MATCHMAKER
Seeks soft-butch WF for petite; at-

The GAY CONNECTION™



Exclusive rematching capabilities. No credit card needed. Each call will be discreetly billed to your phone.

Local men ▾▾▾ Talk ▾▾▾ Meet ▾▾▾ Hot ▾▾▾ Live ▾▾▾ 1-on-1 ▾▾▾ Chat

ONE-ON-ONE
1-900-287-MEET
ONLY $1.98 PER MINUTE · 6 3 3 8

HOT GAY CHAT
1-268-404-4615
INT'L LD RATES ONLY

Jartel Inc. ©1996 18+. Customer Service and Optional Billing Methods, 1-800-406-1122

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and follow the recorded instructions.

$1.99 per minute. Must be 18 or over. Touch tone only. Southern Voice, 1095 Zonolite Rd, Atlanta, GA 30306

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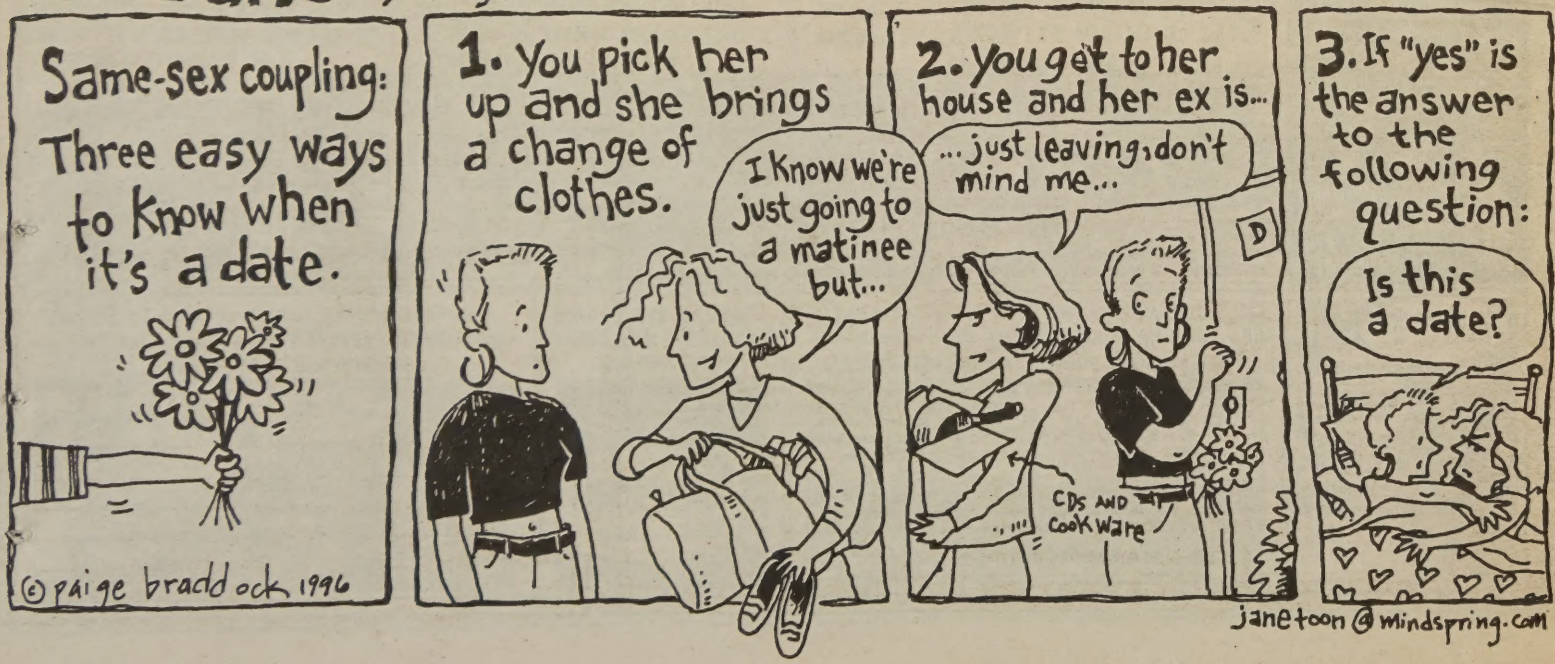
TO PLACE YOUR FREE VOICE PERSONAL AD CALL 404-876-1819

See Jane by Paige Braddock


Same-sex coupling: Three easy ways to know when it's a date.
1. You pick her up and she brings a change of clothes.
I know we're just going to a matinee but...
2. You get to her house and her ex is...
...just leaving, don't mind me...
D
C
CDs AND Cook Ware
3. If "yes" is the answer to the following question:
Is this a date?
©paige braddock 1996
janetoon@mindspring.com

tractive, shy, honest 39, GWF. No bar scenes or games - smoker preferred. #5397

Bisexual

B- FLIX AND TATO CHIPS
Gen-X slacker, 24, 150lbs., 5'9", slim black ISO blue collar boy 4 romance. #5395

BETCHA BI GOLLY WOW
U're D-1 dat I've been waitin 4. Young, bi, black, seeks young cute single. #5396

Glances

CHOW 12/15 1:00PM
You: Br/Bl, green slacks w/friend. Me: dark hair, glasses, denim shirt, brown vest, had to stare. Brunch? #5448

WINN DIXIE 12/18
You: WM, ball cap, blue Ford Probe. Me: BM, leather jacket, great eye contact! Can we meet? #5441

CHRIS 12/10 10PM
Caribou Coffee, Monroe/Piedmont. You were sitting alone outside (multiple pierced ear). Me: blue flannel, was alone, briefly said hello then friend joined me. Let's talk. #5455

BLACK BMW 1992
Saw you two years ago at gym, then at Blakes, liked kissing your date. Spend the next 50 years with me! happy 2 years! #5437

NEW GUY AT GROUP 12/2
Backwards ball cap, red gym shoes. Rick left early. Me: passed you in bathroom and said hi. Buzz cut, mustache, talk? #5411

CHARLES
Backstreet, 11/23, You complimented my eyebrows, would love to see you again. Eric. #5390

CARIBOU 11/23
You, BM, yellow shirt and glasses. Me, black sports utility; can we meet? #5394

MY STARS

CHARLENE LICHTENSTEIN

JANUARY 2–JANUARY 8, 1997

It's a new year and a new outlook friends. Let the revolution—I mean resolution—begin! In 1997 we no longer have to kowtow to the straight and narrow. Let's use the volcanic power of Pluto as it slowly wends its way through Sagittarius in '97. Where does our inner strength lie? Read ahead...

ARIES (MARCH 21–APRIL 20) Pluto in Sagittarius unleashes a powerful jolt in any global enterprise. Proud Rams may also find that legal issues upend in surprising ways. Maybe it means that you need to listen to others rather than shout them down or that you can't rush into conflict on steam power alone. You'll emerge slightly scathed but ultimately victorious.

TAURUS (APRIL 21–MAY 21) Gay Bulls might finally express their sexual range in full glory in '97. Give a big thank you to Pluto in Sag which bursts the floodgates, bringing personal fulfillment. The other aspect of this transit is a psychological cleaning of the pipes, dregging up some sinister muck that you would rather bury than examine. But examine you must!

GEMINI (MAY 22–JUNE 21) Gay Twins who pine for a fulfilling relationship will sit up and take notice of the change in 1997. Pluto in Sag drags your hopeful plans through the streets until you either find your intended soulmate or know how to recognize the gold among the dross. If you are currently involved, Pluto levies some fairly substantial tariffs on the union.

CANCER (JUNE 22–JULY 23) Pluto in Sag should carry a warning label for all pink Crabs; don't fool around with your health this year. Eat sensibly and get into a sound exercise regimen. Pluto can act as the great healer, soothing and regenerating, or as a grim hammer, smashing energy into tiny bits. Stress may build up on the job, but the secret is to let Pluto do with you what it will. It can lead you to an entirely new line of work.

LEO (JULY 24–AUG 23) If fun takes on an intense, over the edge immediacy, blame Pluto in Sag. Proud Lions are not content to simply sidle up to the nearest T bar and snowplow down the bunny slope. Fun has to entail a helicopter drop down some ravine where they'll find you in the spring thaw (or maybe not...) Make good use of this burst of creativity through 1997, but don't cut off an ear to show your devotion.

VIRGO (AUG 24–SEPT 23) Have an urge to relive your childhood? No, but Pluto in Sag will drag you there anyway. Gay Virgins may face a power struggle with parents, but this will prove to be cathartic and affirming. You cannot go on compromising your life because of Mom and Dad. Look deep down into your heart and soul and you'll realize that personal happiness is an all *out* imperative.

LIBRA (SEPT 24–OCT 23) Pluto in Sagittarius forces you to examine how you communicate with others this year. Diplomatic queer Libras find that their words can move mountains, so be prepared to have a mountain move on top of you. On the bright side, it is the perfect time to raise the rainbow banner high and proclaim our freedom. As long as you are moving mountains, move one onto Washington.

SCORPIO (OCT 24–NOV 22) Even the most pernicious proud Scorps will have their loot wrenched from their grasping hands this year as Pluto in Sag runs amok with your finances. Maybe it's a good thing; you don't want to be accused of worshiping the almighty dollar at the expense of your self esteem (or do you?). This will be remembered as the year that you get your values in proper priority.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV 23–DEC 22) Expect a complete rebirth and regeneration with Pluto transiting your own sign. Gay Archers can experience a change of personality or appearance and feel the lift of total freedom and affirmation during this period. If there was ever a time to step out and be yourself, this is it. Anyway Pluto can't stand the hidden or repressed; you'll be shoved out of that closet ready or not!

CAPRICORN (DEC 23–JAN 20) Pluto in Sag acts as the great sanitation worker in your chart. All the muck and the mire that prevents you from living life proudly out will be carted away in heaps. There's no holding you back, so don't even try to play the wallflower. This is the perfect year to express yourself fully through volunteer work for our community. Pluto, like the gods, looks kindly on good deeds.

AQUARIUS (JAN 21–FEB 19) Aqueerians dance to the tune of a different drummer this year as Pluto in Sag switches the beat. Old friends or social groups may no longer hold the same appeal as your basic philosophy undergoes a change of perspective. Maybe you're maturing, or maybe the old crowd is getting a bit stale. Whatever it is, avoid any new friends who wear "I love Pat Robertson" buttons on their lapel.

PISCES (FEB 20–MARCH 20) Do you know who you are and where your strength lies? If the answer is yes, Pluto in Sag bestows rewards upon you. If the answer is no, prepare for an abrupt professional jolt. Pink Fish can master their corporate fate, but don't evolve into a petty dictator. If you don't keep your whips to yourself (or among friends) the fates find a way of serving you a heaping portion of hubris au jus.

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FOR ENTERTAINMENT PURPOSES ONLY

southern VOICE PERSONALS 404/876-1819

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Southern Voice, 1095 Zonolite Road, Atlanta, GA 30306

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If an ad has a post office box or a SoVo box, you may write directly to that address.

TO PLACE AN AD

Fill out the order form below—A 20 word ad with headline and **voice mail box is FREE** and runs for 6 weeks. We will mail you an instruction sheet explaining how to use the system. A 20 word ad with headline using your **P.O. Box** costs $5 per week. No street addresses or phone numbers, please. A 20 word ad with headline and a **Southern Voice forwarding box** costs $10 per week. Extra words for all personal ads cost 50¢ per word, per week.

ADS MUST BE SUBMITTED by Thursday at 12 Noon to appear in the following week's issue.

BRING your ad to our office at 1095 Zonolite Rd., Atlanta
MAIL to Southern Voice Classifieds, 1095 Zonolite Road, GA 30306
CALL IN with completed form and credit card information to (404) 876-1819
FAX completed form and credit card info to (404) 876-2709.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

CIRCLE YOUR CATEGORY
Bisexual Glances Men TV/TS Women

Free headline–not to exceed 20 characters/spaces

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AID Atlanta Gay Outreach

Call David at:
404.872.0060
ext: 306

New Year's Resolutions
- get tested!
- get the facts!
- get involved!
- get some!

AIDS 101

Awareness & Action Seminar

Sat., January 18

Lutheran Redeemer Church
731 Peachtree St., N.E.
(corner of Peachtree & 4th)

- Produced every other month
- Required for AID Atlanta volunteers
- Open to the Public

Info & Registration:
404.872.0600 ext 280

free and anonymous

hiv testing

monday - thursday
12:00 noon - 4:30 : testing
12:00 noon - 6:00 : results
friday
11:00 am - 3:00 pm

AID Atlanta 1438 West Peachtree Street
Atlanta, GA 30309
404-872-0600 ext 320

Safe Sexy Proud

African American Gay Outreach

Love Yourself
Love Your Partner
Love Your Community
404-872-0600 ext.271

design donated by Thom Proco

AID Atlanta

To volunteer or learn about AID Atlanta's 26 other programs, call 404-872-0600
Check out our website at http://www.aidatlanta.com